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THE TIMES

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Allies claim 30 enemy dead and 400 PoWs at Khafji

B52s block Iraqi thrust

Saddam planned wider Saudi Arabia invasion

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent, and Christopher Walker in Saudi Arabia

THE Iraqi raid on Khafji was intended as part of a much bigger invasion of Saudi Arabia, and only a huge air bombardment stopped the advance in its tracks, British sources said yesterday.

Hundreds of allied aircraft had attacked Iraqi divisions moving forward behind the forces that penetrated the Saudi border four times on Tuesday night. That assault continued yesterday, as allied planes — including B52 bombers flying from Spain — relentlessly pounded exposed Iraqi armoured columns massing in Kuwait.

Some 30 Iraqi soldiers were killed and about 400 taken prisoner in the two-day battle for Khafji. American military sources said the Saudis had suffered heavy casualties, thought to be considerably more than the 15 dead acknowledged by a Saudi spokesman.

The Iraqi incursions appeared to be intended to test the Arab "screening forces" closest to the border before making way for a much bigger advance into Saudi Arabia, the British sources said.

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A "whole range" of allied aircraft was called up by the Saudi and American forces to attack the divisions moving forward. "It has been a very heavy campaign," one senior British source said. There were reports that 350 aircraft were involved.

Saudi and American officers have reported four Iraqi mechanised brigades — at least 4,500 troops — moving south in Kuwait just north of the border. The marines had earlier reported five or six divisions — at least 60,000 soldiers — massing near the Kuwaiti town of Wafra.

The British source saw the Iraqi movements not as signs of another attack, but as evidence of the forces returning to their positions. In some cases, "damaged units" were being replaced with reserves from further north.

In spite of the high cost to Iraq in men and equipment, American marines gave a high rating to the performance of the enemy troops, leading to a readjustment of the allied view of their effectiveness and even of some estimates of how long the war will last. Some concern was being expressed at the speed and flexibility shown by Iraqis, who had previously been regarded as hopeless in mobile warfare.

Their tenacity in making a lightning dash to seize the town and hold it against overwhelming opposition for more than 36 hours has sent a clear message that the battle to regain Kuwait City could last months rather than weeks, a western military source said. Even yesterday morning, hours after the Saudis had claimed to have retaken the town, Iraqi snipers were putting up last-ditch resistance. Fierce street fighting such as that in Khafji could be expected when the allied troops finally reached Kuwait City, which has been heavily booby-trapped.

Two American marine reconnaissance teams who were in hiding in Khafji throughout the battle, paid tribute to the prowess of the Iraqi soldiers. "They laid down some real heavies," Corporal Jeff Brown of Cincinnati said. "The were well disciplined and good troops."

Damage and casualties in the town yesterday suggested the scale of the heavy but sporadic street fighting, mostly between mechanised vehicles. In the southern suburbs, it was apparent that the Iraqis had sprung several successful ambushes on the advancing Saudi and Qatari armour.

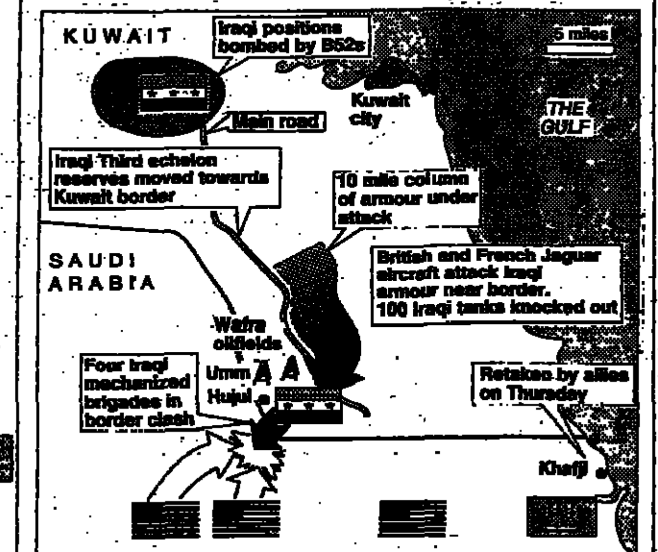
The badly-charred body of a Saudi soldier lay in the seat of a still smouldering armoured personal carrier while a second victim lay half in, half out of the vehicle. A few yards away, an Iraqi soldier lay wrapped in a blue and white blanket. He had apparently been wounded, rescued and then abandoned by his fleeing colleagues.

By noon, the firing had subsided inside Khafji, but could still be heard further north as allied soldiers chased the retreating Iraqis. Further away, the rumble of allied air strikes against the Iraqi armoured columns was clearly audible.

Iraq's sudden decision to order military columns to break cover has created such an array of vulnerable targets for American pilots that some of those flying short-range attack missions are hardly able to believe their luck.

"It is almost like you flipped on the light in the kitchen late at night and the cockroaches start scurrying and we are killing them," Lieutenant-Colonel Dick White, commander of a Tomcat squadron.

The British sources saw the planned large-scale invasion of Saudi Arabia as proof of Saddam's desperate need to force the allies into ground action. "He now realises that the longer he waits for us to attack, the more destruction he will have to suffer from our air campaign. He also knows that coming out from behind the obstacle belt doesn't work either, because his troops get attacked."


KUWAIT
Iraqi positions bombed by B52s
5 miles
Main road
Kuwait city
THE GULF
Iraqi Third echelon reserves moved towards Kuwait border
10 mile column of armour under attack
SAUDI ARABIA
British and French Jaguar aircraft attack Iraqi armour near border. 100 Iraqi tanks knocked out
Wafra oilfields
Umm Hujul
Four Iraqi mechanized brigades in border clash
Retaken by allies on Thursday
Khafji

MIKE MOORE

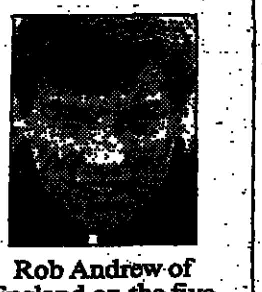
Calm before the storm: a soldier from the 1st Battalion Royal Scots, 4th Armoured Brigade, kneels in prayer during a church service yesterday in eastern Saudi Arabia

Money and mythology

There used to be a Bradbury whose signature was a promise to pay the bearer on demand, which is one reason for writer Malcolm Bradbury's fascination with monetary fictions

SATURDAY REVIEW

Andrew, a real tonic



Rob Andrew of England on the five nations' rugby championship, a preview of the weekend football programme and Alan Lee on the final Test in Perth

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Where the week stops, briefly

Broadcaster Robert Robinson would not buy his Somerset retreat now, but sell it? No fear: he would miss playing at houses

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London, near Baghdad

On Monday Bernard Levin contends that Americans refusing to fly to Europe are not cowards, they are merely ignorant: they think that the planet consists of America, a very large place, and the rest of the world, a very small place

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2,500 skilled jobs go as recession bites deep

By Kevin Eason

MINISTERS are steeling themselves for the return of unemployment as an election issue after recession-hit companies yesterday announced a wave of redundancies and short-time working.

As details of more than 2,500 job losses were disclosed, union leaders feared that manufacturing industry was paying the biggest price for the government's commitment to high interest rates.

BREL Ltd, the trainmaker privatised three years ago, said it was to shed 1,200 jobs in the north of England. Normalair-Garrett, a subsidiary of Westland, the helicopter manufacturer, announced it was cutting 335 jobs from its 1,800-member workforce at Yeovil, Somerset.

London Regional Transport executives will meet unions on Monday to discuss reducing the 50,000 workforce by about 1,000. Fears also grew among unions that British Airways will soon cut its workforce by between 3,000 and 5,000. Peugeot Talbot, which is reducing its Coventry workforce by more than 700, yesterday said 3,000 workers will be laid off on Monday and Tuesday to cut output by 1,000 cars. Jaguar also started an early retirement scheme for workers aged over 60 as output looks set to fall from a peak of 48,000 to about 42,000 limousines and sports cars.

To lighten the gloom, Tesco said it was to open five supermarkets in the northwest, creating 1,900 jobs.

Last night, union leaders emphasised that manufacturing companies were being forced to dismiss skilled workers because they could not cope with the extent of the recession.

BREL, formerly British Rail Engineering, is the latest in a line of big manufacturing businesses to announce severe job losses, with Derby and Crewe suffering the worst cuts. Rolls-Royce, the aero engine maker, said earlier this week that 10 per cent of its workforce, about 1,500 people, would have to go from plants in Derby, Hucknall, Nottinghamshire, and Mountsorrel, Leicestershire. Another 3,000 jobs are scheduled to be lost from British Aerospace's Preston works.

Ford, one of the northwest's strongest employers, is also cutting back as high interest rates force a slump in car sales. The company is looking to cut its workforce by 900, including losses at Halewood, Merseyside, where workers have been told their factory is to go to four-day week working until April.

Bill Jordan, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering, said last night that the government must face the "catastrophic damage being done to the muscle of Britain's wealth-creating industry".

Cruise missiles fray weary Baghdad nerves

From Richard Beeston in Baghdad

THE first cruise missile came in low and fast, hugging the highway like a speeding white sports car travelling east into Baghdad, before disappearing above the rooftops and landing beyond the skyline with a dull thud and a puff of smoke about 10 miles away.

It was followed in the next 15 minutes by five more Tomahawks each cruising about 100 yards from the ground, their tiny fins visible for an instant as they shot past on a route mapped out by their on-board computers to guide them through the streets of Baghdad to a target south of the city.

But the high-tech war is so hard on Baghdad's nerves that the official radio is now threatening to put captured allied pilots on trial as "war criminals". Scores of anti-aircraft batteries, whose gunners have grown accustomed to the daily cruise missile shoot, opened fire with a barrage of flack intended to clip the projectiles and throw them off course or destroy them in the air.

Yesterday, either the gunners were successful or the missile's accuracy failed, as the people of Karrada and Masbah, two prosperous residential areas in Baghdad, discovered to their cost. "Is this the civilisation of the West?" screamed a housewife in a tracksuit as foreign journalists inspected the decapitated trees and a large crater 10ft deep and three times as wide near the American embassy in Masbah.

"*Mea culpa*, all of you are responsible for attacking people for the sake of oil. We are human beings. This is not a game, these are human lives."

The outburst, was one of the clearest signals that Baghdad's residents are beginning to foster a real hatred of the Western forces. Baghdad radio reported that 77 allied raids were carried out overnight and a commentary described the killing of civilians as "cold-blooded", recommending that allied pilots captured should be treated as war criminals not prisoners of war.

"You are equally responsible," said the woman to visiting Western journalists. "I suppose you are happy because you have a story now, but I say enough, enough civilian casualties."

After a fortnight of continuous air raids the civilian toll is beginning to mount and although the city is returning to some form of normality the shortages of fuel and food and the absence of water and electricity is putting great pressure on those trying to survive from day to day.

At the second civilian bomb site in Karrada, next door to the Abdel Maguid Hussein hospital, an entire two-storey house was reduced to a heap of bricks. No one was at home at the time the missile struck and an inspection of the debris revealed that the only casualty was the family cat.

Visits to two nearby hospitals, oganised by the Iraqi authorities, revealed that at least nine people were injured in the morning's raid and one woman killed.

Other suspected casualties, from the billowing smoke rising nearby from a strategic target censors will not allow us to reveal, were not released.

Abolition of apartheid raises hopes on sanctions

By Gavin Bell and Peter Guilford

THE world yesterday gave a warm welcome to a speech in which President de Klerk of South Africa effectively abolished apartheid by announcing the impending repeal of legislation classifying and segregating people according to race.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, called the developments very encouraging. He said that Mr de Klerk had again shown his commitment to transforming South Africa into a genuinely non-racial society. "It is clear that these changes are irreversible."

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, in Paris, welcomed the plans to revoke the laws but said that blacks would remain poor unless real barriers were removed by the government.

European Community officials said the announcement would pave the way to the lifting of sanctions against South Africa. Frans Andriessen, the EC foreign affairs commissioner, said that once the changes had been put into effect, the Community could ease the measures that have been in force since 1986. Those include a ban on imports of iron, steel and gold coins and a voluntary embargo on new investment, which Britain and The Netherlands lifted last year.

Although Britain has been one of the strongest advocates of lifting sanctions, Mr Hurd will not propose any immediate action when EC foreign ministers meet on Monday. European leaders agreed in the Rome summit declaration last year to take no steps until legislation was tabled.

The Community may now soon open an "embassy" in South Africa. Its remit would initially be limited to economic monitoring. But its opening would mark an important change of tone towards Pretoria.

As expected, Mr de Klerk confirmed that the Land Acts of 1913 and 1936 and the Group Areas Act of 1966, reserving most of the land for whites and segregating residential areas, would be abolished during the present parliamentary session.

He went much further in dismantling apartheid, however, by demolishing its cornerstone — the notorious Population Registration Act of 1950. Previously he had said that the act, which classifies race at birth, could be phased out only as part of a new constitution.

However, addressing a stormy opening session of parliament, he said: "Following investigation, it would, in fact, appear possible to repeal this act, provided that this is accompanied by the adoption of temporary transitional measures towards the acceptance of a new constitution. Consequently, I announce that legislation to this effect will be tabled during this session of parliament."

To cheers from the government benches, Mr de Klerk said: "Should parliament adopt the government's proposals, the South African statute book will be devoid, within months, of the remnants of racially discriminatory legislation which have

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Criminal justice review

By Sheila Gunn
Political Correspondent

KENNETH Baker, the home secretary, and Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, are preparing to order a full-scale review of criminal justice, possibly in the form of a royal commission.

The review would have the aim of restoring public confidence after doubts over the conduct of trials and convictions of suspected IRA terrorists. The two ministers have concluded that a wider investigation of existing procedures is needed than the enquiry by Sir John May into the trials of the Maguire Seven and the Guildford Four.

Mr Baker is understood to believe a royal commission would be appropriate after an indication from the prime minister that he is prepared to revive such bodies, which carry a special authority in developing policy.

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SHORTENING THE WAR

Bombing of supply lines holds key as Iraqis pour into the open

After the diversionary battle of Khafji, where will Saddam forces strike next without air cover? **Michael Evans** draws a 1944 analogy with the rout of the Panzers

THE decision by President Saddam Hussein to force his troops to come out into the open to face massive air bombardment could shorten the war by weeks.

The full panoply of allied air power, with the American B52s in the forefront, has been pounding the Iraqi armoured columns ever since they began driving down the highway towards the southern Kuwaiti border. There is, of course, a risk that persistent diversionary raids by the Iraqis — another one was launched yesterday — could disrupt the allied frontline positions, forcing them to move from their prepared locations to respond to any cross-border incident. Even if he fails to provoke the allies into launching their ground offensive, Saddam wants to keep the allied frontline forces guessing where he will attack next.

Constant probing will be aimed at putting the allied units, particularly the Arab and Muslim ones, off guard, as they appeared to be in the first few hours before the counter-attack by Saudi, Qatari and US marine units in Khafji. But there is a direct historical analogy with what is now going on in Kuwait, which could raise hopes of a shorter war. In 1944, before the allied landing at Normandy, strike aircraft engaged in carpet-bombing German cities were diverted to hitting the main German supply lines in France.

Bridges, railway tracks, ammunition dumps and communications sites were bombed to prevent the Germans from being able to call up reserves once the allied forces had landed at Normandy. One of the objectives of the allied air campaign in Kuwait and Iraq is to follow exactly the same strategy: to hit the supply points and to cut off the Republican Guard reserve divisions from the frontline troops, before phase two of Operation Desert Storm is launched.

In 1944, once the allies had formed their bridgehead at Normandy, the German Panzer and SS Panzer divisions, which had remained concealed behind bushes and hedges in the French countryside, emerged into the open to mount an attack on the bridgehead. Like the Iraqis today, the Germans had virtually no air cover. Hitler and his generals had failed to generate adequate aircraft production and most of the fighters were involved in protecting German cities from allied raids, not providing cover for the ground forces in France.

The result was that thousands of allied aircraft formed "cab ranks", led by US Flying Fortreses, to launch their bombs on the German Panzer divisions whenever they appeared from their hideouts. The slaughter was on an immense scale. The German armoured divisions contained some of Hitler's most prestigious and best trained troops. Yet they stood no chance against the allied bombing. Forced to retreat, they even abandoned their tanks. The routing of the German Panzer divisions in France unquestionably shortened the war. But the allies ran out of petrol and the Germans had time to rally, form a new defensive line and counter-attack in the Ardennes, prolonging the war into another year.

Unless Saddam has read his military history books and taken note of past tactical failures, it is possible he will make the same mistake, sending his troops to become victims for allied target practice. However, as with all analogies with past conflicts, there are never exact parallels.

Saddam may have the capacity to launch surprises which were denied to the German commanders in 1944, one of which could involve an attack on allied forces, using chemical weapons. Hitler never resorted to chemical or gas attacks, although he had the capability. Nor did the allies. Churchill considered dropping anthrax on German cities, but that never happened. Saddam, facing defeat in Kuwait, might think differently.

However successful the bombers are today in crippling Iraqi reserve forces sent to the front, the allied tactical commanders are now aware, more than ever before, that they are dealing with a resourceful enemy, who has already demonstrated his flair for the unpredictable. A propaganda victory in Khafji could become a military victory at some other point along the border: the annihilation of an allied observation post, for example, or a sabotage operation by Iraqi special forces? Judging by the number of allied aircraft — 350, according to one US officer — involved in bombing the two Iraqi battalions which entered Khafji, there is a danger that so-called "mosquito-sized" incidents, to use General Norman Schwarzkopf's description, could seem like overkill. However, according to the lattest intelligence last night it seems that the Khafji raid was part of someting bigger, planned but aborted by the Iraqis, largely due the the heavy air campaigns.

Aircraft crews talked of having to stack above Khafji, waiting their turn to bomb targets. It is the Normandy "cab rank" scenario once again, although in the case of Khafji, the queues of aircraft were forming to disrupt a comparatively small incursion by a mechanised and an infantry battalion, a total of about 900 soldiers. Why the Iraqis failed to reinforce the battalions once they had seized the town remains a mystery. For it is obviously more difficult to winkle out enemy troops and artillery, hiding in buildings, than it is to target them out in the open.

COUNTING THE COSTS

Government to present Saudis with invoices for war effort

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Ministry of Defence has collected "vast numbers" of invoices to present to the Saudi government to cover some of the costs of keeping 40,000 troops in the Gulf. Under a special "host nation support agreement", signed with Britain on January 15, the Saudis are to pay for fuel, water, transport and rations.

Kuwait, which has contributed 7,000 troops, 50 tanks and several fighter aircraft to the allied forces, has given Britain assistance with "airlift capacity" but has not yet offered any money to help to cover British war costs. British sources said negotiations were under way.

Host nation support agreements have also been signed with the surrounding Gulf states, although there are as yet no firm offers to supply free fuel. Bahrain and Oman are hosts to RAF aircraft and Royal Navy ships are being fuelled at United Arab Emirates' ports. The sources said that negotiations were also under way with both the UAE and Bahrain for an agreement on fuel.

Although the invoices for the Saudi authorities will be presented soon, there is no expectation that all the bills will be paid before the end of the financial year.

With two months to go before the defence ministry closes its books for 1990/1991, officials have been trying to assess how the promised contributions will soften the impact on this and next year's budget. So far, only Japan has sent cash contributions. The German government this week promised about £270 million but it is not clear when that will be sent.

The cost of Operation Granby will be over £1.25 billion by the end of the financial year, as announced by Tom King, the defence secretary, in the Commons on Thursday. But that does not include the cost of replacing lost equipment. The defence ministry is expecting to spread the cost burden over several years, sources said yesterday.

Of the £1.25 billion, only £780 million represents extra money. The remaining £470 million is accounted for in salaries, training and equipment which would normally be spent wherever British soldiers were deployed.

The extra costs include £34 million for bringing the RAF's Alarm anti-radar missile system into service earlier than planned; £28 million on cooling equipment for armoured vehicles; £31 million on extra avionics for aircraft; £20 million for modifications to Tornados and £11 million for sand filter systems and air conditioning.

The £780 million bill for the extra costs consists of £550 million for additional equipment; £100 million for the sealift and airlift of the 1st Armoured Division to Saudi Arabia; and £130 million for "running costs", including extra welfare benefits and phone calls home.

Quayle keeps US nuclear option open

DAN Quayle, the United States vice-president, yesterday refused to rule out the use of nuclear weapons by America in the Gulf war (Nicholas Wood writes).

Asked if he could foresee any circumstances in which the US might resort to nuclear weapons, he said: "It is always an option. We have no desire to deploy it, but it is an option we are not going to rule out."

The vice-president's choice of words on the second day of his visit to Britain were tougher than John Major's formula for dealing with the question. The prime minister has emphasised the potency of the allied conventional armoury and said that he does not "envisage" the use of the ultimate military sanction.

Mr Quayle's comments on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme came as he endorsed the warning by Tom King, the defence secretary, that Iraq was likely to fire chemical weapons at the allies.

He said: "If Saddam Hussein uses chemical weapons, one option for us is to overwhelm him with conventional weapons and not nuclear weapons. But I am not going to sit here and rule out any options, which the president may or may not have to contemplate."

Rights appeal by Red Cross

Geneva — In a "last-chance" appeal, the International Committee of the Red Cross has urged the Gulf belligerents "to have due regard for humanitarian considerations, show respect for the victims and treat them humanely in the spirit of the Geneva conventions" (Alan McGregor writes).

Cornelio Sommaruga, the committee president, said: "One of the most disquieting aspects of this conflict is the possibility that the law of war, which is the expression of the most basic and universal principles of humanity and of the dictates of public conscience, might be swept aside by the political, military or propaganda demands of the moment."

Mubarak confident

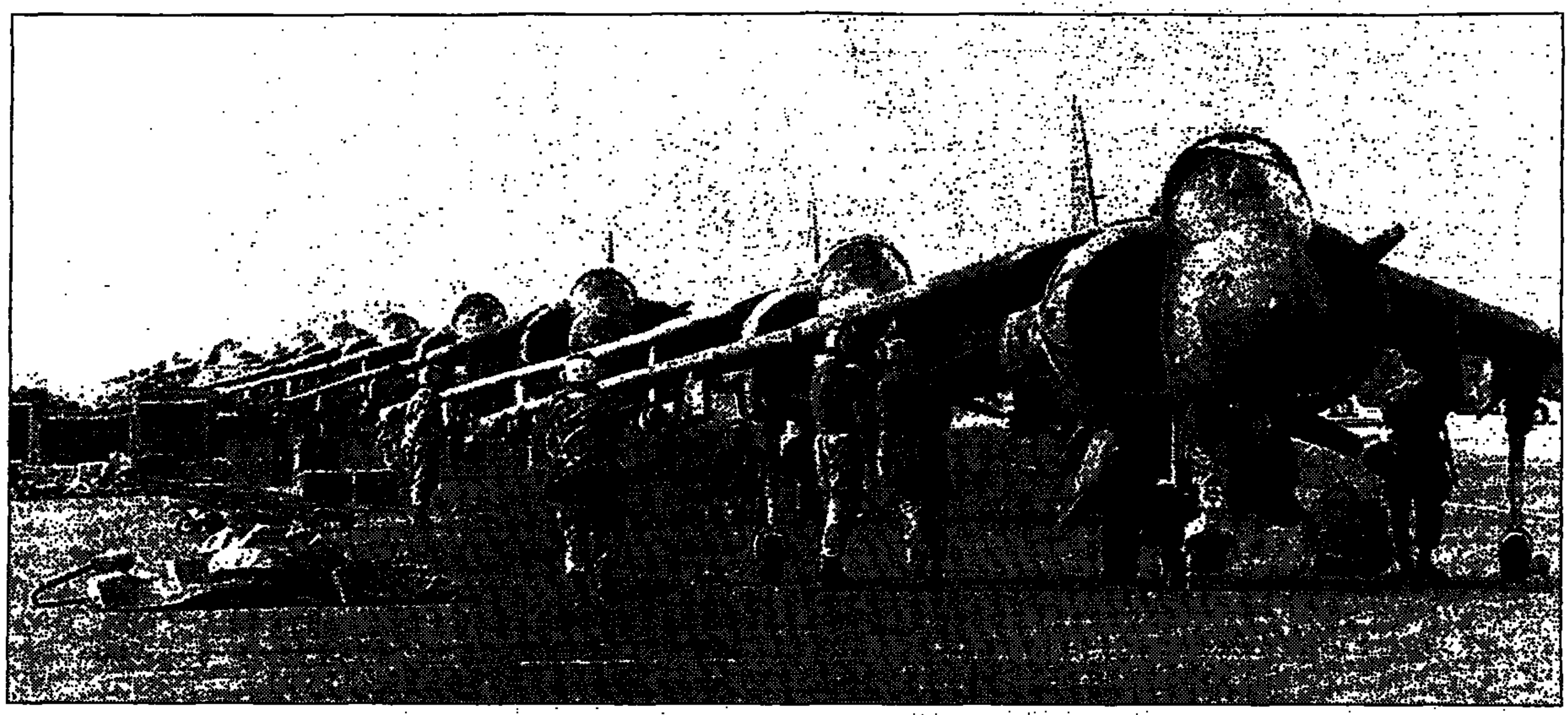
Washington — President Mubarak of Egypt predicted in an American television interview that the war may only last another month unless some surprise development occurs. He pledged that Egyptian troops would remain part of the US-led coalition fighting to drive Iraq from Kuwait even if Israel retaliates against Baghdad for Scud missile attacks. *(Reuter)*

Expansion blocked

Bahrain — The war has jeopardised Gulf Air's £2 billion expansion plan just as the airline was recovering from the eight-year Iran-Iraq conflict. *(Reuter)*

Suspects expelled

Bangkok — Two Iraqi and one Jordanian terrorist suspects have been deported from Thailand to Nepal after Bangkok had failed to send them to Malaysia.



Ready for action: American Marine ground crews preparing a line of Harrier jump jets at an airbase in Saudi Arabia. The British-made vertical takeoff and landing aircraft have been in the thick of the clashes between allied forces and the Iraqi army along the border with Kuwait

WEAPON OF THE DAY

Deadly mines await allies

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

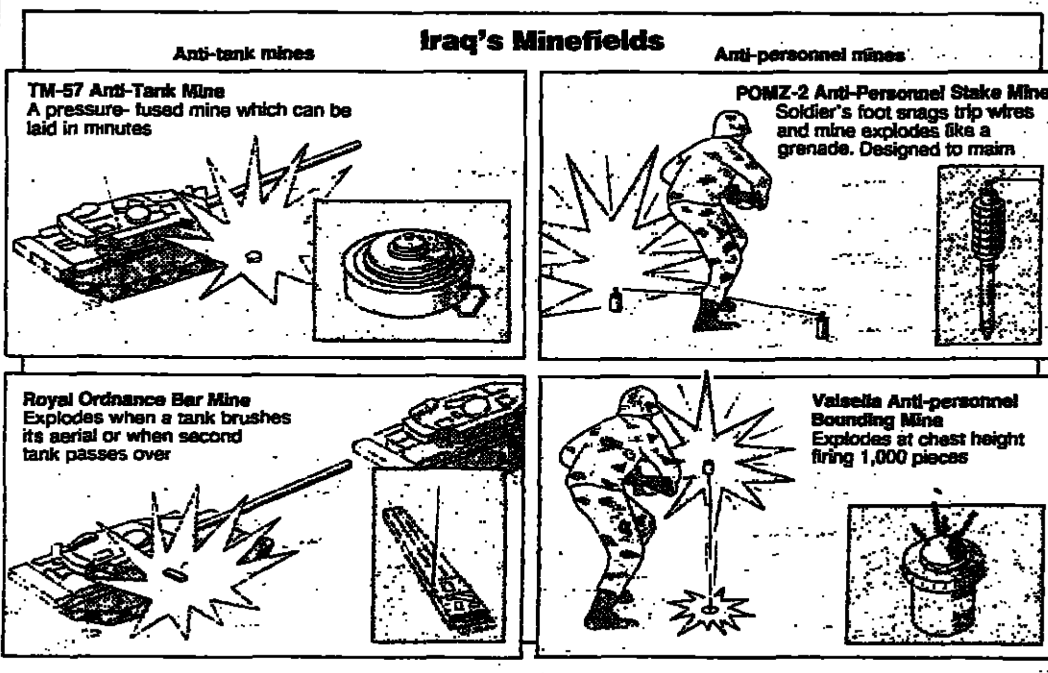
ONE of the deadly weapons that awaits allied forces in any land strike to liberate Kuwait is a sophisticated anti-tank mine that blasts away tracks, cripples armour and was made in Britain.

The plastic Bar mine, developed by the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment at Fort Halstead, Kent, is one of the hardest mines to detect and can be sown by hand or in the hundreds with a specially made plough. It is triggered by a tiny aerial, above the ground, which is brushed by the tank's underbelly. The mine can be set to explode under the first tank which passes or when a following tank arrives, a so-called second impulse mine.

Military experts believe the devices, made by British Aerospace's Royal Ordnance division, were seized from Kuwaiti army supplies after last year's invasion. The mines are now in one of the world's biggest mine arsenals and may have become part of the 37 mile-long defences dug by Iraq across eastern Kuwait, around Kuwait City and in the Gulf.

The exact number of mines held by the Iraqis is unknown, but estimates vary from between half a million and a million, variously designed to disable ships and vehicles or hurl a 60 ton tank several feet in the air. Others, anti-personnel mines, either kill or cripple troops by firing a hail of shrapnel, razor sharp springs or ball bearings. Some, dubbed "Bouncing Bettys", leap into the air showering troops with deadly fragments. Others gouge into sensitive areas or remove parts of the body such as "the toe-poppers".

The Iraqis may to have Soviet-designed mines which shower chemicals. "Think of a make or a kind of mine and they have probably got it," said Christopher Foss, editor of Jane's Military Logistics.


Iraq's Minefields
Anti-tank mines
Anti-personnel mines
TM-57 Anti-Tank Mine
A pressure- fused mine which can be laid in minutes
POMZ-2 Anti-Personnel Stake Mine
Soldier's foot snags trip wires and mine explodes like a grenade. Designed to maim
Royal Ordnance Bar Mine
Explodes when a tank brushes its aerial or when second tank passes over
Valsella Anti-personnel Bounding Mine
Explodes at chest height firing 1,000 pieces

WAR IN THE GULF: DAY 16

ALLIED FORCES

SORTIES: more than 32,600 allied air missions flown since war began, 19,000 on combat missions.

LOSSES: In the latest Khafji fighting, officials reported four deaths and eight wounded among U.S., Saudi, Qatari and other allied troops. Military sources say an additional 14 are missing in the crash of a U.S. C-130 and two non-combat troops - a man and a woman - are missing in northern Saudi Arabia. 24 allied planes lost; 19 in combat, including 12 American, five British, one Kuwaiti, one Italian. Non-combat losses: five planes, including 3 American, one British, one Saudi. Allies report 12 prisoners of war, including 8 Americans, 2 British, one Italian and one Kuwaiti.

CLAIMS:

The 11-mile Iraqi armoured column advanced toward Saudi Arabia under heavy air bombardment from allied B-52's, as Iraqi and allied troops exchanged rocket and artillery fire along a 150-mile stretch of the Saudi-Kuwait border. 100 Iraqi tanks have been destroyed since Iraqi forces first seized Khafji. Saudi General Khalid bin Sultan said his troops backed by US marines had killed or wounded 200 soldiers and captured 400 in driving the Iraqis out of Khafji. Allied forces said they recaptured the town after more than 36 hours of fighting, dodging sniper fire and mines in an effort to mop up resistance.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak predicted in a television interview that the Gulf War could be over within a month because of successes in the air war.

In Saudi Arabia, the chief religious legislator decried Saddam Hussein as an "enemy of God" and called the U.S.-led onslaught against him a jihad, or holy war. President Turgut Ozal was quoted as saying that one Iraqi Scud missile fired at Turkey would be sufficient to warrant Turkish reprisals.

IRAQI FORCES

IRAQI CLAIMS:

Iraq claimed that it shot down three allied aircraft on Thursday night. 200 allied aircraft and missiles downed and more than 20 prisoners held, 320 civilians killed, 90 soldiers killed and 400 civilians wounded since the Gulf war began, according to Baghdad radio.

Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency said Basra and the nearby cities of Faw, Abu Al-Khasib and Zubair were bombed by the U.S.-led forces from Thursday night until Friday afternoon.

Baghdad radio said Iraq will hunt down and punish U.S. President George Bush and the leaders of France, Britain and Saudi Arabia because they command allied aviators accused of killing civilians.

ALLIED WAR AIMS

President Bush vowed that the United States and its allies "will prevail, make no mistake about that. And when we do, we will have taught a dangerous tyrant and those few who would follow in his footsteps that there is no place for lawless aggression in this critical region."

Ozal: promised that Turkey would retaliate if attacked

AMMAN NOTEBOOK by Edward Gorman

Travellers' tales of the long road from Baghdad

The moustachioed president of the Islamic university in Baghdad was one of the more distinguished travellers to grace this grubby Jordan-Iraq frontier post this week. But his elegant black and gold robes topped by a red and white *kefiyeh*, were hardly matched by his car.

To protect himself and his companion against allied air attacks on the 450-mile journey from Baghdad, he had given the Chevrolet an unusual respray. He had covered it with light brown desert mud, leaving clear only the driver's side of the front windscreen.

He said this was usual practice, without explaining further, leaving open the possibility that hundreds or even thousands of Iraqis may be driving around in cars covered in mud as an extremely effective form of camouflage.

"We know exactly that if the Americans, the English, or the French see an Iraqi car, a civilian car or any car, they will bomb it," he explained to reporters gathered to interrogate bewildered-looking refugees straggling across the border.

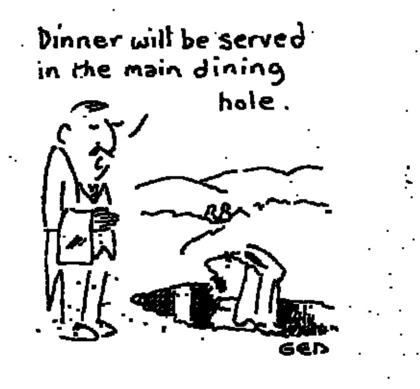
Being the president of the university — he refused to give his name — he was lucky enough to get an exit visa, a privilege denied to many Iraqis. But he was not a refugee, he said — he was going to Amman on university business and would soon be returning to Iraq.

Muhammad Ahmad Tohami, an Egyptian, turned up at transit camp I inside the no man's land between the two frontiers about 15 miles east of here, early on Wednesday morning.

Mr Tohami's singular achievement was to make the arduous and dangerous journey from Baghdad to the border and then to spend 10 days in the freezing desert without shelter waiting for permission to cross, without even loosening his tie.

He is the first refugee anywhere this correspondent has seen wearing a tie. Few refugees wear ties, but he seemed somewhat affronted at the suggestion that he might have taken it off. He was, he eagerly pointed out, a "captain of waiters" at the Baghdad Tower Hotel, which he proudly reminded me is a five-star establishment. The now grubby grey-striped tie and matching grey shirt, its top button done up, were his uniform. The tie, he said, had helped to keep him warm.

Muhammad stood out like a general among foot soldiers from the hundreds of angry and dirty Egyptians who arrived with him in open-topped trucks. Hungry, thirsty and cold, they rolled their eyes and licked their lips in anticipation when he started running through the menu at his restaurant. Scallops with ham and scallops with chicken were some of the best offerings, he said. The speciality of the house was that old trusty, peppered steak.


Dinner will be served in the main dining hole.
GEN

Since fighting began two weeks ago there have been some extremely bizarre stories told by refugees about their outward-bound journeys and about conditions in Iraq and Kuwait. Many have struck journalists, particularly those about the seemingly endless stream of allied pilots spotted either in captivity or making their getaways from shot-down planes, as pure fiction.

The story told by Nida Yusef, a 17-year-old Palestinian girl travelling with her family from Kuwait to Jordan, could be fiction, but she seemed a credible witness. She said that on Tuesday at about 7.30pm they were driving about 60 miles from the frontier having passed the town of Arrutbah. In front of them was a Chevrolet car driven by an old man, with his wife and two children.

Suddenly the car in front slowed and in the darkness they saw a man in uniform standing waving his arms in the middle of the road. According to Nida, there were seven or eight men altogether, all in a uniform she did not recognise, and one was carrying a rifle. She and her father heard only one speak in Arabic and said the others seemed to be speaking to each other in good English.

"He opened the door and said to the boy 'get out, we will not kill you, we will take the car'," Nida said in English. She said the old man was punched in the chest before being thrown out of the vehicle. They drove off into the desert, firing two bullets into the sky.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

The A–Z of Gulf warspeak

Amraam advanced medium- range air-to-air missile (fitted to F-15Es).

Bam broad-assed marines; male military slang for female colleagues.

Bliss escape and evasion technique taught to pilots; blend, low silhouette, irregular shape, small, secluded.

Deconfliction ensuring that aircraft on the same side don't fly into one another.

Hellacious American description of conditions during the battle for Khafji.

Zulu Greenwich Mean Time.

. . . and 179 more — in The Sunday Times tomorrow.

HOST OF TARGETS

Allied pilots queue up for 'turkey shoot' in the desert

From Christopher Walker
in Eastern Saudi Arabia

IRAQ's sudden decision to order military columns in occupied Kuwait to break cover and head for the border has created such an array of vulnerable targets for American pilots that some of those flying short-range attack missions are hardly able to believe their luck.

"Now, it is almost like you flipped on the light in the kitchen late at night and the cockroaches start scurrying and we are killing them," said Lieutenant-Colonel Dick "Snake" White, commander of the Tomcat Squadron of US Harrier jump-jets in the forefront of the cross-border operations which continued relentlessly yesterday.

"The long wait for the Iraqis to come up and fight has finally come to an end," he said. "They are moving in columns, they are moving in small groups and convoys. It is exactly what we have been looking for and it looks to me like Saddam has lost his marbles. This is what we have been searching for and hoping for for the past 10 days."

Colonel White, aged 39, a cool and efficient flyer typical of the professionalism which characterises the frontline US marine aviators, said that earlier this week there had been so many US aircraft queueing up to launch their bombs that he had been forced to circle for 20 minutes before ground control would allow him a slot to make his runs.

"With US aircraft swarming the area, my biggest danger was running into another American plane," Colonel White explained laconically after returning from a mission in which he dropped 720lb Rockeye cluster bombs on a column of six Iraqi tanks. "It was almost like trying to get to the check-out during a close-out sale on ladies' lingerie."

Like other American commanders in the front line, the colonel was perplexed about the sudden, almost suicidal switch in Iraqi tactics, which defence analysts believe represents a reckless gamble to secure the propaganda initiative and force the pace of the land war.

"It is a golden opportunity. We have been executing bombing raids for about two weeks, but the biggest problem has been finding targets to hit," Colonel White added.

He had earlier strafed and set ablaze a column of about 25 Iraqi armoured vehicles which he found parked nose-to-tail on the side of a Kuwaiti desert road.

"If Saddam wants to bring these tanks out and line them up on the road as he did on Wednesday afternoon, that is fine with us. We are killing them. It makes no sense whatsoever," he said.

The colonel, whose air base in northeastern Saudi Arabia has experienced a sudden boost in morale as a result of Iraq's decision to expose its troops without air cover, seemed at times *unable to comprehend Iraqi military thinking.*

"What in the world are they doing?" he asked incredulously. "It is opposed to all military logic. I just really do not know what to make of it. He (Saddam) was doing fairly well hoarding his assets, hiding them from air attack. We have had bad weather, but as you can see the sun is shining. If he brings these vehicles out now and lines them up on the highway, it is going to be a turkey shoot."

Much allied strategy had been geared to finding ways of winkling the Iraqis out of formidable fortifications which they have spent nearly six months preparing. But the marine pilots have now found the Iraqis have begun performing their task for them.

War Instinct, page 10
Letters, page 11

MISSILE ATTACK

Fire in the sky at start of battle for Khafji

By Gilles Trequesser
with allied forces
in Saudi Arabia

"SAM, SAM," screamed Dick Lazisky as a ball of fire raced towards his small surveillance plane circling low over the Kuwaiti border.

The United States Marine squadron commander said he was the first to give allied forces a detailed aerial account of this week's Iraqi thrust into Saudi Arabia. The incursion developed into the biggest ground battle of the two-week-old Gulf War. Sporadic fighting was still reported yesterday in the abandoned Saudi city of Khafji.

"It began with lots of machinegun firefight from the ground, red tracers streaming north and south (of the border) and SAMs (surface-to-air missiles), three clusters of threes, leaving red glows inside the cockpit," recalled Lieutenant-Colonel Lazisky. "It was quite scary," said the 41-year-old Bostonian who had no previous experience of combat.

"You see these SAMs, like big balls of fire coming at you, every 10 seconds, it gets your attention." Skilful banking of his aircraft allowed him to evade the incoming missiles. Unaware that Iraqi forces had moved across the Kuwaiti border Colonel Lazisky and his "backseater", Captain Dave Neely, were on a routine night reconnaissance mission on board their OV 10 Bronco turboprop aircraft.

"It was about midnight (on Tuesday) when our cameras began recording a column of vehicles, like a mechanized battalion, moving just off the Khafji road towards a Marine contingent," said the colonel.

Radio chatter indicated an advanced unit of Marines was under heavy enemy fire and retreating. "The Marines said that they were getting overrun and leaving that area," said Captain Neely. Press reports later said the contingent of US Marines and Saudi national guards were taken by surprise by the initial Iraqi assault. Colonel Lazisky marked targets with fluorescent flares allowing US bombers to pound Iraqi positions minutes later. *(Reuter)*

End of the track: a Saudi soldier standing guard by an Iraqi armoured personnel carrier in Khafji, burnt out during prolonged fighting against the allied forces

BATTLE TACTICS

Coalition puts Churchillian faith in the power and precision of artillery

From Philip Jacobson with the 40th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery in the Saudi desert

THE first shot to be fired by British ground forces in the war with Iraq will come from one of the 155mm howitzers of the 40th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, and the gunners confidently expect the opening salvo to land where they intend.

Whether this will be on Iraqi frontline positions or a column of advancing tanks remains to be seen. The ferocity of the enemy response is another imponderable. The Iraqis have many more heavy guns than the allied forces and their skills are not questioned by British artillery experts.

Even so, there is no question in the mind of Lieutenant-Colonel Rory Clayton, commanding officer of the 40th, that sheer quality of crews, targeting, manoeuvrability and swiftness of action will give his regiment the edge.

Captain Stuart Eton wanted us to know that the 98lb high explosive shells scatter tiny blades of shrapnel over a prodigious distance. "Catch a piece about the weight of your biro and that's the end of the war for you," he said, before giving details of the gruesome effects of well-aimed air bursts on dug-in infantry.

Like many Royal Artillery officers he seemed more thoughtful, more concerned with the theories of his deadly trade, than his counterparts in infantry and tank regiments. Of course, gunners work with precision instruments and their craft is based on surveying, even if computers now do the crucial sums for them. It is a point of honour in the regiment that if all the electronics are out, a minimum of information from foward observers would allow them to lay their weapons by means of triangulation, trajectory and weight of shell.

The regiment's howitzers are self-propelled, mounted on a tracked vehicle that can move very swiftly if necessary. Colonel Clayton believes that the Iraqi weakness will be a lack of strategic flexibility and utter ignorance of what facing a highly-trained modern artillery force means in terms *of power and accuracy.*

"Look at it this way," he said, "when all three batteries are firing, their eight guns are delivering the equivalent of a dozen Scud missiles every 20 seconds over a range of about 20km. And believe me, they are going to hit the target zone every time."

To the unconcealed satisfaction of the commander and his men, the allies' mastery of the air over Kuwait is certain to make their task of suppressing Iraqi artillery during the key breakthrough phase more manageable. "You can dig your guns as deep as you like in bunkers and store ammo and other supplies with them, but without spotters up front their targeting will be up shit creek and there is no way they can pop their *heads up while war planes are* queueing to batter them," a sergeant in charge of one 155mm crew said.

The regiment believes in a beguilingly simple formula to overcome the enemy: kill the other sides' gunners, bust its pieces or simply keep them pinned down until morale cracks. As we ate sandwiches with the colonel and his officers, Captain Eton reminded us again that although the trade of the gunner is necessarily conducted from behind the front line, artillery consistently inflicts the heaviest casualties (more than 60 per cent in the second world war).

He also wanted us to know what Winston Churchill, a cavalry subaltern in the days when they *still rode horses, had to say about* this arm of the business of war: "Renown awaits the commander who restores artillery to preeminence on the battlefield."

RAF MILESTONE

A million pounds of explosive on target

From Lin Jenkins
with the RAF
in the Gulf

THE busiest RAF detachment in the Gulf passed the milestone yesterday of delivering a million pounds of explosives in frontline attacks on enemy targets during missions since operation Desert Storm began.

Shortly after a group of Jaguars returned from sorties yesterday, their bomb loads gone, Group Captain David Henderson, commander of the detachment, announced that the thousandth 1,000lb bomb had been dropped. Asked if the rate at which they were being delivered could cause any problems, he replied: "We have brought plenty with us."

The Jaguars can carry four 1,000lb bombs, the Tornados eight (they have also dropped JP233 bombs on airfields).

"Aircraft are continuing to be involved with some shipping at the north end of the Gulf and have been attacking Silkworm missile sites and other targets like that," he said. He added that they had *also taken out an SU23-4 mobile* anti-aircraft piece on the border of Kuwait.

Wing Commander Bill Pixton, commander of the Jaguar pilots, said: "You can't work flat out in a war environment for very long. You have to draw back a little bit, accept tasking that you can maintain for a significant length of time. The sorties we fly now mean my pilots will fly roughly once a day, which is enough."

(This report is subject to allied military reporting restrictions)

Henderson: attacks are continuing on shipping

AIRCRAFT PLOY

Iran 'was asked to allow suicide raids'

By Hazhir Teimourian

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein sent 92 of his best military aircraft into *Iran last* week with the request that Iran allow them to mount suicide raids on allied ships in the Gulf from behind their lines, according to a report in London yesterday.

The allegation was made by a spokesman for the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, one of the *two largest Kurdish autonomist* organisations in Iraq, which has strong links with a number of Middle East governments. The spokesman said he had "the greatest confidence" in the information.

"It showed Saddam's despair," the Kurdish organisation's London spokesman said. "He saw his air force hiding helplessly underground or being destroyed whenever it ventured out, and he thought he would send it into Iran in the hope of doing something spectacular from there."

But, according to the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, Saddam had miscalculated. Iran impounded the aircraft, and most of the pilots decided that asylum in Iran was preferable to committing suicide.

The spokesman said that the aircraft comprise 92 military and 10 to 15 civilian ones. They are parked on runways at four western Iranian military airports: Jaldyanm, near the town of Piran, Sanandaj, Kermanshah and Hamadan. *The military* aircraft include two Ilyushin transports converted to an early-warning role. The fighters include some of Iraq's most modern, MiG 29s. They were accompanied by a number of military transport aircraft.

The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan does not rule out the possibility *that some of the aircraft had* gone over of their own will.

The Kurdish guerrilla organisation's allegation is supported by two known developments. A day after news of the episode spread, Iraq asked that the aircraft and pilots be returned, and on Wednesday night an Iraqi delegation headed by a senior Baath Party figure, Saadun Hammadi, arrived in Tehran carrying a message from Saddam, which is believed to have been another appeal to Iran as a "brother Muslim country" to enter the war on Iraq's side.

The Iranian government has said that the aircraft will not be returned to Iraq until the end of the war, in order not to compromise Iran's formal neutrality. Political circles in Tehran, however, talk of retaining the aircraft as "the first instalment" of reparations Iran damands from Iraq for launching the first Gulf war.

Frontline friend: a marine finds a moment of peace with a cat during a pause in the fighting at Khafji

ASSAULT TACTICS

Israelis are ready to hit Scud sites

From Richard Owen
in Jerusalem

THE head of the Israeli air force said an Israeli strike against Iraqi missile sites in western Iraq was prepared and all that was needed was a decision by Israel's leaders to go ahead.

General Avihu Bin-Nun gave a warning to King Husain of Jordan not to interfere if Israel did launch an air strike and used Jordanian airspace. He said Israel was gaining from the allied pounding of Iraq "with every day that passes". But it had ways of dealing with the missile threat from western Iraq which were not available to the allies.

The number of missile attacks on Israel has decreased recently, with the two latest Scuds landing in the occupied West Bank and falling short of Israel proper. But Israeli officials have told the public to stay on the alert, for fear of a chemical weapons attack, especially if the war on the Saudi-Kuwaiti border goes against Iraqi troops and armour.

Referring to western Iraq, General Bin-Nun said: "We have capability and tactics different from those of the US, and we believe we have the battle strategy and ideas to carry out such a mission. It only needs a decision by the political leaders."

The Arab allies in the American-led coalition, including Egypt and Saudi Arabia, have indicated that they would remain in the coalition if Israel retaliated for Scud attacks after two weeks of restraint. The general said he hoped that Jordan would understand if Israeli planes were obliged to use Jordanian airspace to reach Iraq, "just as Iraqi missiles have passed through Jordanian skies to reach us".

He said Israel had nothing against Jordan, and any Israeli strike would be for a "limited period". But if Jordan failed to understand this and put up resistance, "there will be no Jordanian air force".

Germany, which has been criticised for allegedly failing to stop German firms from helping to develop Iraq's non-conventional military potential, yesterday sent the first shipment in a $700 million (£357 million) airlift of military supplies, including antidotes for chemical weapons. The cargo includes medical equipment for countering the effects of chemical and biological warfare.

(This dispatch contains only material passed for publication by the Israeli military censor)

US confirms gunship lost with 14 crew

From Martin Fletcher
in Washington

AN AMERICAN AC130 gunship has crashed during a combat mission over southeastern Kuwait and its 14 crew are missing, a US military spokesmen confirmed yesterday.

The crash on Thursday morning, of which the cause has not been determined, has nearly doubled the number of American airmen who have been lost in the war. Until then, allied planes had flown more than 30,000 sorties with only 19 aircraft lost, almost all in the first week of the conflict. Only one had been lost in the previous five days.

Brigadier-General Pat Stevens, the deputy director of logistics at Central Command, also announced in a briefing that more than 500 Iraqis had been taken prisoner after the battle in Khafji on Wednesday and Thursday.

PEACE CAMP

British activist hopes she has undermined troops' morale

From Edward Gorman
in Amman

PAT ARROWSMITH, the diminutive veteran British peace activist, emerged from more than two months in Iraq yesterday saying she hoped her activities would help to undermine British and American soldiers' morale.

Ms Arrowsmith, aged 60, a vice-*president* of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, was one of more than 120 people from 20 nations who set up a peace camp at Arar in Iraq, about a mile from the Saudi frontier and seven miles from concentrations of allied — mainly French — troops. The camp was about 300 miles from Kuwait and was a former staging post for pilgrims to Mecca.

The camp, a concreted compound in the desert with covered areas of corrugated iron which still bears the big painted slogans "Give peace a chance" and "Gulf Peace Team", is thought to have been taken over by the Iraqi military as a base.

Ms Arrowsmith said she was confident the same forces which finally made America's military involvement in Vietnam untenable would paralyse the Allies' efforts in the Gulf.

"I certainly hope my behaviour is as bad for soldiers' morale as possible — that's what I want more than anything," she said. "In principle, anyone at the moment who is seducing British soldiers from their duty or American soldiers from theirs has my full support."

She did not believe a decline in morale would endanger soldiers by inhibiting their effectiveness as a fighting force.

"When soldiers' morale goes down, they desert . . . that's what I am interested in," she said. She described her role and that of other peace campaigners in the Gulf and elsewhere as to "sow additional seeds of dissidence" in the hearts and minds of troops. She believed young American men were already seeking counselling on ways to avoid a possible draft.

Ms Arrowsmith who is on bail on charges connected with breaking into a military base in Suffolk, returned to Amman early yesterday with about 70 other members of the *Gulf Peace Team*, after the Iraqi authorities ordered them out of their camp.

The decision to empty the camp clearly caused considerable bitterness and arguments between the 70 or so activists who stayed for the first 10 days of the war, oblivious to the jets flying overhead and the distant thump of bombs.

John Livesey, aged 61 and a former soldier from New Zealand, indicated that he was in disagreement with the hardliners. "They were a pack of nutters at the camp. They are people with a death wish. They were people who were prepared to die to make a stand," he said.

Ms Arrowsmith was one of four Britons who had to be carried on to the buses taking them out of the camp. She agreed that there had been disagreements, but said that this was inevitable.

"We are going to be rather *determined people to come on* such a project . . . and, in the broad sense of the word, we are going to be anarchistic people who don't like rules and regulations."

Despite the closure and disagreements, Ms Arrowsmith was satisfied that the Peace Team achieved most of its objectives, acting as what she called "a moral force" in a war zone and a "human buffer between armies in conflict".

She believes it served as a deterrent to military action in its immediate surroundings and most importantly, set a precedent in the history of the peace movement. "This was an international camp right up at the front between two conflicting armies and it stayed for the first 10 days of war. I hope it will be followed by further such significant steps in future."

Britain, with about 30 members, was among the best represented nations together with India, Italy, Australia and America. *Activists passed the time by* carrying out camp chores, joining working groups on non-violence and discussing strategy in so-called "definity" meetings, which lasted up to five hours at a time, and playing table tennis.

Ms Arrowsmith, who with several others made her own T-shirt with the logo "I choose to stay", said that despite the proximity to the war people were not frightened. "I think we recognised that bombers on their way to Basra or Baghdad were not interested in bombing a peace camp," she said.

APPEAL FOR FUNDS

Mellor seeks Arab cash for British war effort

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DAVID Mellor, the minister who infuriated the Israelis with his outspoken condemnation of conditions in the occupied territories, flew to the Gulf last night on the first leg of a mission to persuade Arab states to help defray the costs of Britain's war effort.

The chief secretary to the treasury left for the United Arab Emirates as his department underlined the pressures the conflict is exerting on the public finances. It disclosed that, largely because of the fighting, public spending for this financial year is expected to be £600 million higher than forecast in the autumn statement, pushing the total to £181.2 billion.

Mr Mellor's trip to the Middle East is expected to last a few days and could well involve appeals for cash from other Arab countries beside the United Arab Emirates.

It comes after the successful mission to Germany earlier this week by Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, which resulted in a £275 million contribution towards the war effort.

Treasury and foreign office ministers are planning a series of visits to European, Arab and Asian countries aimed at sharing the financial burden of driving President Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait. Although most Conservative MPs support the appeals, Edward Heath, the former prime minister, has accused the government of making "mercenaries" of British troops by going "cap in hand" to foreign governments.

In common with other Arab countries supporting the international coalition against Iraq, the United Arab Emirates has made payments in kind to Britain by supplying free food, water, fuel and accommodation to its forces stationed in the region. However, there have been no cash contributions.

Mr Heath's attack, delivered on BBC television's *Question Time* on Thursday night, drew an angry response from the attorney general last night. Sir Patrick Mayhew, who has been advising the war cabinet on the legal basis for international action against Iraq, said that Mr Heath's accusation was "patently and dangerously false".

Sir Patrick said that Britain was motivated not by the desire for private gain but by the wish to "prevent a brutal aggressor succeeding" and to uphold the authority of the United Nations.

Nose for trouble: a sniffer dog and his military police handler checking sacks of letters and parcels for explosives in the British Forces Post Office at the Inglis Barracks in Mill Hill, north London, yesterday

Gulf servicemen sent 75,000 letters a day

By DAVID YOUNG

AN AVERAGE of 75,000 letters a day are being handled by the British Forces Post Office (BFPO) at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, north London, as families and friends of servicemen take advantage of free and concessionary postal rates.

The forces' head post office is subjecting all mail for the Gulf to stringent security checks, but is still able to get letters out to many servicemen in frontline positions within three days.

Post offices are being stripped of airmail letters because families are sending so many letters to the Gulf. The "forces' free airletters" or "blueys" are available at all post offices for use by service personnel and their next of kin and may be posted free of charge. They should be endorsed "HM Forces Gulf" in the top right hand corner.

From today the economy service concessionary BFPO rate will be the only way to send parcels to service personnel in the Gulf. Some families have been using the more expensive standard air mail rates to send parcels to BFPO addresses in the Gulf, but the standard service has now been suspended to avoid confusion. The transit time between posting and delivery in the Gulf is around 10 days; however, some delays may occur as a result of hostilities or for operational reasons.

People sending a parcel to forces in the Gulf should ask for the economy service and to help people who want to send parcels to service personnel in the Gulf, Royal Mail Parcelforce has set up a Gulf hotline on Freephone 0800 224466.

The forces' concessionary rates also exist for other items of mail, for example, letters, greetings cards and packets. Families seeking further information should contact the Gulf Help Desk at the Ministry of Defence on 071-430 6243.

BUSH MISSION

Moral dilemma in drive for public support

From SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush has set out on a spiritual journey in search of a moral voice that will hold Americans together through a bloody ground war in the Gulf.

Yesterday, on his first trip out of Washington in almost two months, Mr Bush visited three Southern military bases to address the families of American troops in Saudi Arabia as he and military commanders grapple with the problem of how to deal with casualties on both sides.

"We are on course, we are on schedule, and things go well," he told the families of marines at Cherry Point air station in North Carolina.

But two days after the American military reported its first 11 deaths under fire in a ground battle, his words were carefully crafted to reach a wider audience than the flag-waving relatives assembled before him in an aircraft hangar.

They reflected the presidential dilemma of how to avoid dwelling on the loss of human life in a war, without making the families of those who have died in action think their relatives are not receiving the public tribute they deserve.

In this war, the White House and the United States military are visibly changed by the painful lessons of the Vietnam era, when their strategy of releasing the numbers of enemy dead backfired. Not only did the high figures have the unintended effect of hardening the resolve of the Vietnamese to fight, but American public support for the war effort dissolved as the body count escalated.

Standing beneath the blades of a military attack helicopter at the marine base yesterday, Mr Bush tried to strike a balance by only alluding to the 11 marines reported dead in fighting against Iraqi soldiers in Khafji, Saudi Arabia, this week.

Instead of directly referring to the dead, he invoked the noble history of the Marine Corps, including the storming of beaches at Iwo Jima and Guadalcanal during the Pacific war, that ranks among their greatest victories.

In the Middle East, their "professionalism and sacrifice will end the nightmare ... of Iraq's brutal occupation and ensure that Kuwait is once again free", he said. Looking back to his State of the Union address earlier in the week, Mr Bush reminded his listeners that to be an American "means enlisting in the cause of liberty and undertaking the hard work of freedom". He also took time to meet privately the families of American servicemen missing in action in the Gulf.

Mr Bush, as is usual when a president first orders troops into combat, has widespread public support to date for his Gulf policy. But, mindful of the collapse of Lyndon Johnson's presidency when domestic support for American policy in Vietnam waned, he has tried to strike a high moral ground. He has repeatedly described the war against Iraq as a "just war" and has spoken in public about the solace of prayer "at this defining hour".

American military and political leaders have openly stepped up efforts to prepare Americans for high casualties in a ground war against Iraq. General Norman Schwarzkopf, the commander of American operations in the Gulf, told Americans they must realise that "war is going to kill people", while the Pentagon announced it would release figures for downed United States aircraft every few days instead of daily.

One of the administration's main concerns is the possible effects on public support and troop morale if Iraqi reports of American POWs are true. So far, President Bush has little to fear from his country's anti-war movement and the relatives of those who have died in the past two weeks are behind him.

"My son did not die in vain," Jim Stephenson, a former marine, told *The Desert News* of Salt Lake City after learning of his son's death this week. "People who voted for this war do not need to feel guilty. They did the right thing. We totally support them. My son did, too."

LABOUR REBELS

Club bans pacifist MP Wise in disgust

By A STAFF REPORTER

A LABOUR MP has been banned from her town's Labour club because of her position on the Gulf war.

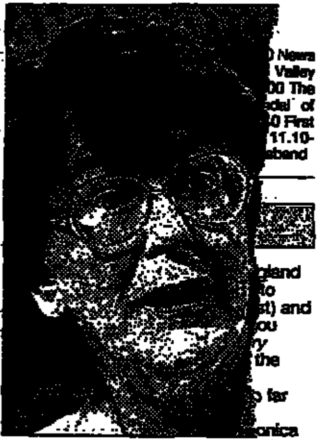
Audrey Wise, Labour MP for Preston, Lancashire, has had her membership card tor up by angry club officals. Sta Barker, a committee membe said: "She is not welcome he any more. We are disgusted by her behaviour."

Members of the tow Ingol Labour Club decided ban Mrs Wise after she came one of 34 rebels who voted against a C mons motion this week giv the troops in the Gulf their support.

Mr Barker said: "W Britain is at war the peop the front need our sup We want to dissociate selves from her."

Mrs Wise, a pacifist, s "Commons procedure did allow us to vote for peace. not a case of not suppo the troops. I just want t home safely.

"I am angry because club went public on without me having a chan see their letter to me. It is blinkered and I do not bel that the vast majority people in Britain are tak this intolerant attitude."



Wise: said decision w blinkered and intoleran

ATTACKS FEARED

Link line set up for scared Muslims

By JOHN YOUNG

A NATIONAL telephone link line was set up yesterday by Muslims concerned about attacks on their community provoked by the Gulf war.

The Supreme Council of British Muslims, representing some 40 organisations, reported an increasing number of verbal and physical assaults.

Volunteers manning telephones in eight British cities will pass details to the police. A member of the council said yesterday that intimidation ranged from abusive calls to physical violence, and that old and lonely people in isolated areas were very frightened.

Council representatives will today urge the government to call a ceasefire. Demonstrations will also be staged in Hyde Park, London, and George Square, Glasgow, organised by the Committee to Stop War in the Gulf.

Among the speakers in London will be Rear-Admiral Elmar Schmähling, former director of the West German armed forces' office for studies and exercises, who was "temporarily retired" a year ago for his controversial views on defence and security.

● LILLE: A fire, probably started deliberately, damaged the prayer room in a mosque in the small town of Montigny-en-Ostrevent, 130 miles north of Paris, yesterday *(Reuter)*.

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SLUMP IN TOURISM

Fear of terrorism could keep away one million Americans

By PETER DAVENPORT AND MICHAEL HORSNELL

BRITAIN'S tourist industry, which earned £8 billion in 1990, is preparing for a drop of one million in the number of transatlantic visitors this year as fear of Gulf-related terrorism keeps Americans at home.

An estimated 1,000 tourist jobs were lost in the first 10 days of fighting and the business is said to be down by as much as £1.6 million a day.

Airlines, hotels, theatres and tour operators all report drastic reductions in business as the number of visitors from the United States slumps by 90 per cent and those from other countries by 50 per cent.

Last night Lord Ullswater, the minister responsible for tourism, told incoming tour operators that the government was taking steps, including security measures at ports and airports, to restore confidence in Britain as a destination for both business and leisure travellers.

But his announcement was too late to save the £1.3 million Stephen Sondheim hit musical *Into the Woods* which became the first West End casualty of the Gulf war yesterday — victim of a half-filled theatre, largely caused by the absence of American tourists.

Theatre audiences throughout London are reported about 40 per cent down, especially for the big musicals, and cinemas more than 20 per cent lower.

Members of the British Incoming Tour Operators Association held an emergency session on the Gulf at the beginning of their annual conference in Sheffield yesterday. Although senior officials of the British Tourist Authority attempted to inject some hope for the future into the debate, many delegates were pessimistic.

Lord Ullswater said: "Britain is as safe a destination as we can make it and visitors should not be deterred from following their plans by threats of terrorism. This only advances the terrorists' cause." Yesterday short-notice tickets for most West End entertainment were widely available at the box office with the notable exception of *The Phantom of the Opera*.

● TUNIS: Tunisia is making desperate appeals to Western governments to change their advice against taking holidays there (Penny Gibbins writes).

The tourism minister, Muhammad Jegham, said: "Tunisia is safe and tourists can come here — we have no problems in Tunisia."

Tourism is running at one-fifth of its normal winter level — with the drop sharpest among British visitors. There are currently between 50 and 100 British tourists here against the normal late January figure of 4,000.

Mr Jegham said many tourists were frightened of coming to an Arab country during the Gulf war — but Western embassies here say that there has not been one authenticated case of a tourist being attacked because of the war.

Doctors protest at denial of new drug to kidney patients

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of patients with kidney failure are being denied a new drug that can transform their lives because it is too expensive, specialists said yesterday.

The lack of funds for the drug, erythropoietin, or EPO, is described as scandalous in an editorial in the *British Medical Journal* today. Erythropoietin is regarded by renal specialists as an important advance in the treatment of anaemia, a serious and common side-effect of chronic kidney failure.

Doctors at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee, Tayside, report in the journal that patients from whom the drug was withdrawn as part of a clinical trial suffered a recurrence of anaemia as well as serious psychological effects. "Denying the drug to those who have been given it has a devastating impact. Patients who have been given a new lease of life by it go back to square one," Iain Henderson, consultant nephrologist at the hospital, said yesterday. "Kidney patients who have had to be wheeled into hospital because they are not fit to walk have been able to return to work and enjoy a relatively normal life because of the drug."

He said that half of all the patients in the Tayside health region who needed the drug could not be given it because of its cost. A year's treatment with EPO costs between £3,000 and £5,000, and the health department has told regional health authorities that they must pay for it from their budgets.

Until recently, the drug has been provided by its manufacturers to hospitals without charge as part of clinical trials. Now that trials have stopped and it has been granted a product licence by the health department, its costs must be borne by hospitals or GPs. Roger Gabriel, a consultant renal physician at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, west London, says in the editorial: "Erythropoietin so improves the quality of life in selected patients that to withhold it, in 1991, in the United Kingdom is unacceptable."

About 1,300 kidney patients have been given the German-made drug free, but between 200 and 300 who need it nationally may be denied it, he says. "The treatment is successful and the lack of funds to purchase supplies is scandalous." Malcolm Phillips, consultant physician and nephrologist at Charing Cross Hospital, west London, said: "A special case needs to be made for the drug because of its tremendous clinical benefits."

Erythropoietin is a genetically engineered version of a hormone produced in the kidney that stimulates the production of red blood cells in bone marrow. About a quarter of patients with kidney failure have a deficiency of the hormone and become anaemic. That in turn causes chronic tiredness, breathlessness, headaches, depression and menstrual irregularities.

Health department officials and kidney specialists have calculated that the drug could cost the health service £10 million a year. The department said last night spending was being increased to allow the drug to be introduced progressively. "We hope the impending health service reforms will help renal units to deal more easily with expensive treatments such as this."

Bomb case report completed

The report by Devon and Cornwall police into the case of the Birmingham Six is expected to be on the desk of Sir Allan Green, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, on Monday. The force's enquiry is likely to be crucial to the appeal by the Six later this month.

According to the DPP's staff, however, there is no sign of an agreement between the DPP, Home Office forensic scientists and the defence on a common view of the technical evidence which helped to convict the Six. Agreement could mean a decision by the DPP to drop the forensic science evidence — a main plank of the prosecution case.

The final report and the progress of any agreement will be discussed at a preliminary hearing next Thursday which is expected to set the agenda for the full hearing which starts on February 25.

Blackmail case

Sidney Taylor, aged 43, was yesterday jailed for 15 years by Derby crown court for kidnapping the wife of an assistant bank manager in Ripley, Derbyshire, in a blackmail attempt. Taylor, of Little Bridgeford, Staffordshire, had denied blackmail and possessing a firearm with intent.

Gas damages

British Gas was yesterday ordered to pay £50,000 damages to a couple whose house in Buccleuch Street, Glasgow, was damaged by a fire caused by a heater which was not properly repaired.

Takeaway fraud

Wan Ghoi Chan, aged 51, of Bangor, Gywnedd, the owner of a Chinese takeaway, was jailed for 18 months and fined £36,000 after admitting cheating the Inland Revenue of more than £200,000. The cash has been repaid, Caernarfon crown court was told.

Bag snatch

A man snatched a briefcase containing £2,000 from the passenger seat of a car stopped at traffic lights in Salisbury, Wiltshire, yesterday.

Heseltine chooses American adviser

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Heseltine has chosen an American as one of his closest political confidants to join him at the environment department as his special adviser. Eileen Strathnaver, who helped to run Mr Heseltine's office in Victoria during his years in the political wilderness, will join the ranks of Whitehall's ministerial advisers on Monday when she officially starts work in the Marsham Street headquarters of the environment department.

Mrs Strathnaver has worked on and off for the environment secretary since the late 1960s when she first joined him as a research assistant with a history degree from Somerville, Oxford. She joins at least 20 other special advisers working for ministers but unlike many of them her background is not deeply rooted in the politics of Conservative Central Office or its research department.

Strathnaver: not linked to Tory Central Office

As well as being a channel of communication between a minister and his party, special advisers can perform a number of roles, providing both political and expert advice. They can act as personal confidants, give advice on non-departmental matters going to cabinet, help with the presentation of both policy and the minister, and provide additional policy options to those presented by the career civil servants.

How much influence the advisers wield over policy is impossible to estimate and depends on their relationship with the minister. Career civil servants, special advisers say, keep a close eye on the relationship and exploit for their own advantage any sign of a minister losing confidence in his adviser.

Special advisers are paid civil servants but are political appointments which must be approved by the prime minister. Their background is often similar: Oxbridge educated with experience in Conservative Central Office.

Mrs Strathnaver spent yesterday packing files at Mr Heseltine's private office in Victoria in preparation for the move to ministerial suite in Marsham Street. She is a divorcee with two children, one at university and one taking A levels.

Week set aside to pick jury for marathon criminal trial

Frances Gibb sets the scene for the hearing of the case against Blue Arrow/Natwest

THE task of empanelling a jury for the marathon Blue Arrow/County NatWest trial, predicted to be the longest running and most expensive criminal hearing since the Nuremberg trials, starts on Monday.

A week has been set aside to pick a jury that will be able to survive a trial that could last ten months. Mr Justice McKinnon is the trial judge.

In an effort to prevent false starts, potential jurors are likely to be asked a range of questions to weed out any who might not stay the course. They may be asked, for example, not only if they are pregnant, but also — for the first time — if they are likely to be.

If previous practice in the Lloyds prosecutions is followed, the weeding- out of jurors will be through a questionnaire. It is designed to whittle out anyone whose family commitments, work (perhaps as a self-employed small businessman), health or holiday arrangements could prove an obstacle.

A new courtroom has been prepared in Chancery Lane for the trial, which stems from an unsuccessful £837 million rights issue by Blue Arrow, because no existing courtroom could cater for the record number of lawyers involved and the mass of documents. The empanelling itself, however, is likely to take place at the Central Criminal Court because of the lack of space at the new courtroom for the 150 members of the public from whom the jury will be chosen.

As with the Guinness case, the prosecution of Blue Arrow/County NatWest has been split into two trials. In the first, scheduled to go on until October 24, counsel are involved, with nearly 30 defence solicitors from nine firms and the Serious Fraud Office (SFO). In the second trial, another eight counsel are involved plus the prosecution team of four.

The legal teams will include most of the leading names in white-collar crime prosecution and defence. The chambers of Michael Hill QC, for example, which provided prosecuting counsel both for Lloyds and Guinness, is supplying both prosecution and defence lawyers. They include Nicholas Purnell, QC, chairman of the criminal Bar, who leads the prosecuting team of four, and Michael Bowes, one of his juniors.

The ten defendants, including three corporate defendants, are separately represented. The silks on the defence side include John Mathew, QC, for County NatWest and NatWest Investment Bank, one of whose two juniors, Simon Davis, is again from Michael Hill's chambers.

The Serious Fraud Office is prosecuting the three corporate defendants and 11 individuals arrested in November 1989 for allegedly conspiring "to defraud such persons who had or might have had an interest in acquiring, disposing of, subscribing for, sub-underwriting or otherwise dealing in shares of Blue Arrow by dishonestly misleading the market."

The two courtrooms in Chancery Lane have been equipped with the latest technology. The prosecution plans to use about twenty video monitors to display graphics and a rostrum-mounted camera to show documentary exhibits.

BARRY GREENWOOD

Present of the past: Leonard Mercer, curator, surveys the grand exterior of Plas Mawr in Conwy, Gwynedd, described as the finest surviving example in Britain of an Elizabethan town house. It has been given to the nation by its owner, Lord Mostyn (John Young writes).

The house was built between 1577 and 1580 for Robert Wynne, an influential Welsh squire, and came into possession of the Mostyn family in the 18th century.

Its name in English means Great Hall and the building's grey stone exterior contrasts with the rich ornamental interior plasterwork, ceilings and chimneys.

Sir Wyn Roberts, minister of state for Wales, said that Lord Mostyn was to be congratulated on placing the house in the care of Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments, which had drawn up a conservation programme.

The first phase will cost £110,000 and it is hoped that work will be completed to allow the house to reopen to the public next year.

In town, page 14

Parent fines criticised

MAGISTRATES yesterday joined criticism of government plans to penalise parents who fail to control delinquent children, claiming that such measures would damage rather than bolster parental responsibility (Quentin Cowdry writes).

Angered by Home Office refusal to accept modifications, the Magistrates' Association said that imposing financial penalties on parents would increase strains within families, causing more family breakdowns and homelessness among teenagers.

Rosemary Thomson, the association's deputy chairman, said: "We do not disagree with the government on the importance of the family unit, but this new power is likely to divide families." Ministers believe that the sanctions threat will stiffen parental discipline.

MPs reject no-fault payments to patients

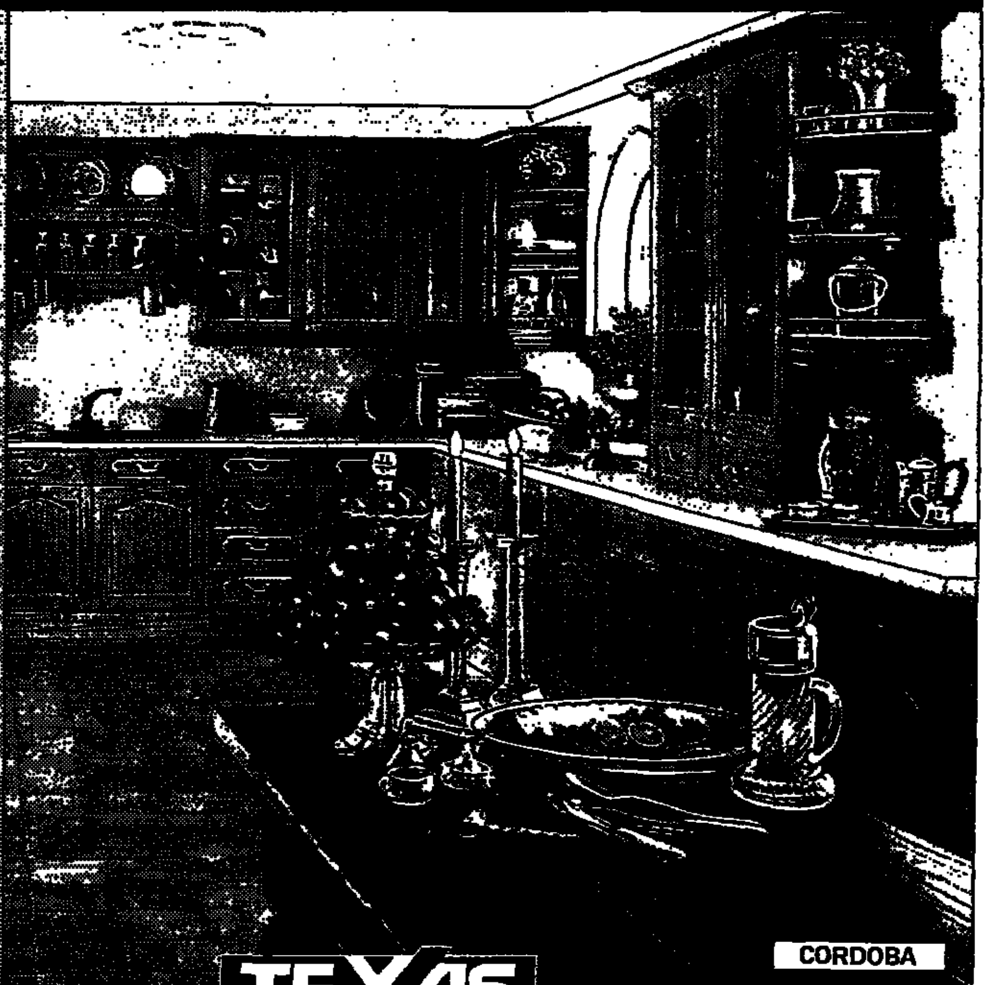
By JOHN WINDER

A BILL to provide no-fault compensation for victims of mistakes or accidents while under NHS treatment was rejected by a vote of more than two to one in the Commons yesterday. The second reading of the National Health Service (compensation) bill was refused by 193 votes to 81.

William Waldegrave, the health secretary, said that the bill would, in crucial respects, make the situation worse. He announced that the government would consult interested groups on a proposal by Lord Griffiths for an administrative procedure to deal with negligence claims. It would consist of a panel of two lawyers and a doctor.

He said that the bill would involve many more compensation claims in the courts and would force the medical profession away from treatment involving higher risks.

The bill was proposed by Rosie Barnes, independent social democrat MP for Greenwich, with backing from the Labour party. Mrs Barnes said the bill would help those who could not prove negligence as well as the cases where no one person was at fault. Harriet Harman, opposition health spokesman, said the present system was monstrously and structurally unfair.



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Winds of change blow hot and cold for British flora and fauna

Parry: "we need to try to map out possible strategies now"

By NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

BATS, dragon-flies and the Dartford warbler can look forward to a more agreeable lifestyle if the climate in Britain warms up over the next 50 years, a report published yesterday by the environment department says. Bluebells, midges and the mountain hare, however, may find the change less to their liking.

The report is an attempt to assess the probable impact of climatic change on life in the United Kingdom. Prepared by a committee chaired by Martin Parry, professor of environmental management at Birmingham university, the report does not claim to predict the future climate, but attempts to identify areas of national life which would be sensitive to any change that did take place. If the climate does warm up, as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change suggests, the main effect in Britain is likely to be on water supplies. Hotter weather could lead to water shortages, even though winter rainfall may well increase.

The potential impacts on water quantity and quality, and soil moisture are all identified as of critical importance. In particular, many soils in Britain are very sensitive to changes in moisture, as the past two dry summers and huge increases in subsidence claims by householders have shown.

The water shortages that might result from climate change could damage agriculture, the building industry, and water-dependent industries like textiles and food processing. Insurance companies, whose claims for subsidence doubled in 1990, might face even higher demands in the future.

The report assumes that nothing will be done to reduce the output of greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming, and that average temperatures in Britain will rise by 1.1C by 2030 and 2.2C by 2050. Agriculture should be able to adjust to such a change quite smoothly, Mr Parry said yesterday, but other industries could find it more of a problem.

Wildlife would also have to adjust to the change, which would be helpful to creatures which at present find the British climate too cool, and inimical to those which are basically adapted to even colder places. Among the winners would be wild plants such as prickly lettuce, wall barley and black twitch, most butterflies, moths, and bats, the Dartford warbler and the stonechat, and the salmon and carp.

The losers would include woodland flowers like the bluebell, and northern species such as Jacob's ladder and the mossy saxifrage. Midges and Alpine sawflies would languish, while the snow bunting and the dotterel might also find the going harder. The mountain hare, the Arctic char and the freshwater whitefish, all of which like the cold, would diminish or disappear.

The uncertainties in the estimates are, however, very large. Mr Parry said that it was impossible to say whether there would be more or less rain during the summer in a warmer Britain, or whether huge storms like those of October 1987 or January 1990 would increase in frequency. On that important question, the report says that the scientific "state-of-the-art" precludes even reasoned speculation.

Does this not make the advice given irrelevant or even irresponsible? Mr Parry believes not. He says that the report does not recommend specific actions, as the state of scientific knowledge does not justify such advice, but this should be no reason for ignoring the issue altogether. "We need to try to map out possible strategies now, even if we don't know whether there is going to be more rainfall or less," he said.

Climatic warming will bring joy as well as pain. For every Scottish ski resort that runs out of snow there will be a seaside town boasting more visitors. In homes and factories, warmer winters will cut fuel costs dramatically, by 30-40 per cent. Areas of Britain that are at present simply grassland may be able to turn to more profitable arable crops, while maize may become a cultivable crop in southern England.

If the changes do happen, Mr Parry and his colleagues could be the last to notice.

He admitted yesterday that when his report was being commissioned by the environment department a year ago, they spent a day in an basement office of the DoE in Marsham Street, central London, discussing what it should cover.

When they emerged at the end of the day, they were greeted by broken windows and fallen trees, and found they had missed one of the worst storms Britain has ever experienced.

Snow on the way, page 22

Farmer must pay damages for green-top milk deaths

A FARMER was ordered yesterday to pay £33,000 damages after the deaths of six pensioners and a baby who were infected by unpasteurised "green top" milk. Last night it was disclosed that until two years ago an estimated 1.5 million people drank such milk. A fortnight ago the government received an official warning of the dangers of drinking raw milk. A committee studying food poisoning emphasised its "strongly-held view that consumption of untreated milk is hazardous".

The committee, chaired by Sir Mark Richmond, a leading scientist, urged the government to rigorously enforce the controls on "green top" milk and keep the product under close review.

The damages were awarded against a farmer, John Speak, by Mr Justice Judge at the High Court in Leeds after he heard that Luke Frazer died 23 hours after being born when his mother, Antonia, drank some of the infected milk. Another victim, Frank Shackleton, aged 73, a retired weaver, died from septicaemia 48 hours after being admitted to hospital.

David Gripton, for the families, said an investigation showed that all the victims used the same milkman — Mr Speak's son, David, of Dobb Lane, Sowerby Bridge, West Yorkshire.

Mr Shackleton's widow Emily, of Woodroyd Gardens, Luddenden Foot, near Halifax, and Luke's parents, Mr and Mrs Dermot Frazer, formerly of Halifax, claimed £18,000 and £15,000 respectively for breach of contract by David Speak in 1984.

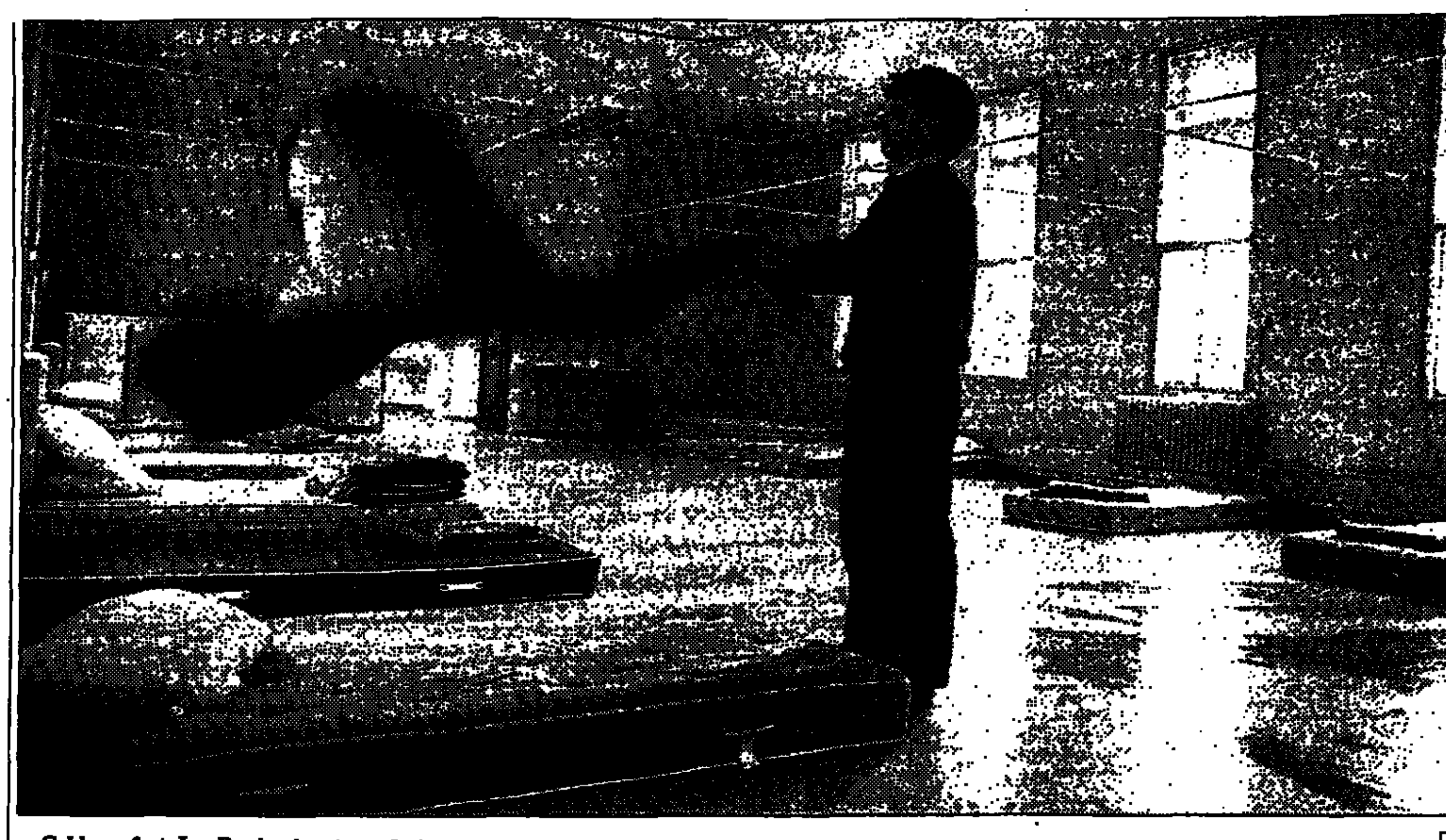
Mr Justice Judge ruled that David Speak was entitled to total indemnity against the agreed damages. David Speak had taken out an action against his father for selling him milk which was not of a "merchantable quality".

David Speak told the court that he and his father did all they could to ensure that milking and bottling facilities were spotlessly clean. Some customers still preferred green top milk, he said. The Queen and the Prince of Wales are among members of the royal family who drink unpasteurised milk from a herd of Jersey cows at Windsor.

In Scotland raw milk sales were banned in 1983. Cases of food poisoning linked to milk fell sharply from more than 500 the previous year to a handful in succeeding years. In England and Wales raw milk sales have been falling. Sir Mark Richmond said that green top bottles now account for less than 1 per cent of the total liquid milk market.

Thousands of raw milk drinkers protested when ministers announced their intention two years ago to ban sales. The protest persuaded the government that consumers should have the right to choose, but health warnings were put on green top bottles. From last September anyone buying raw milk has been advised: "This milk has not been heat-treated and may therefore contain organisms harmful to health."

MARC ASPLAND



Cold comfort: Ian Brady, deputy director of the housing charity Centrepoint, making up beds at the Soho Square hospital, which opened its doors for the first time in more than two years last night as shelter for 50 of London's young homeless.

At a cost of £34,000, the redundant Victorian hospital will stay open for a month until more permanent accommodation is made available later this year (Michael Hornsell writes). The move is part of a £96 million, 1,000-plus bed initiative announced before Christmas by Sir George Young, the housing and planning minister.

Yesterday mattresses were laid out on the linoleum floor of two derelict wards and a meal of tomato soup and cottage pie prepared by volunteers. The scheme is being administered by Centrepoint, which already runs two other projects locally. Mr Brady said: "We have been turning people away until now, and this project will help.

"We have seen a lot of people who have been on the streets for months and even years and who are surviving from day to day, many of them having to beg. Most times of the year they can survive, but when the weather is this cold accommodation can become matter of life or death."

He added: "Most young people are from outside London who leave home for complex reasons. They come because they think the streets are paved with gold. There is no place for them to go back to, and there have been so many cuts in the benefit system that they have no money."

At any time up to 3,000 people are sleeping rough in London and at least half of these are young people under 25.

Girl of 13 is cleared of murdering baby twins

A girl aged 13 was cleared yesterday of double murder by a jury at the Central Criminal Court (Robin Young writes). She had been accused of starting a fire in which her brother and sister, twins aged ten months, died, and of attempting to murder her mother, who was sleeping in the same room.

At the end of a five-day trial the jury took five hours to find the girl not guilty. The girl did not give evidence during her trial. She broke down in tears after the verdict. The judge, Mr Justice Alliott, ordered that she should not be identified. She is now to be made a ward of court.

The prosecution had claimed that the girl started the fire because she wanted to kill her mother, who was the chief prosecution witness against her.

In evidence the mother denied having lit the fire herself in the hope that if there was a tragedy at home her lover, the father of the twins, might return to her.

Spending increase

The elderly, disabled and long-term sick will benefit most from social security spending over the next three years, according to spending plans published yesterday. The plans, which are being set out in individual department documents, confirm that social security spending will rise from £55.9 billion in 1990/1 to £62.8 billion in 1991/2, and £72.4 billion by 1993/4.

Woman gets life

Joyce Meikle, aged 38, of Birkenhead, was jailed for life yesterday by Liverpool crown court for the murder of Reg Cumpstey, aged 68, a former lord mayor of Wirral. She admitted smothering him with a pillow after he refused to pay her and an accomplice over blackmail threats. Geoffrey Stewart, aged 24, who denied murder, was found guilty of manslaughter and jailed for 15 years.

Opt-out 'political'

Gwent county council yesterday accused David Hunt, the Welsh secretary, of accepting a primary school's proposal to opt out of its control simply because it is in the constituency of Neil Kinnock. Cwm Carn comprehensive is the first school in Wales to be given grant-maintained status. Anita Lloyd, county education chairman, who is to seek a judicial review, said the move was political.

Dispute settled

A long dispute between a Somerset farmer and the Nature Conservancy Council over the management of three sites of special scientific interest was resolved in the High Court yesterday. Counsel for the NCC said that agreement had been reached with Mervyn Sweet, of Chapel Blakeway, Wedmore, on the future of Westhay, Tealham and Tadham moors in the Somerset Levels.

Multi-million pound LSD factory raided by police

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE have seized LSD worth millions of pounds at a secret drug "factory" in the Welsh borders during the largest investigation against the psychedelic drug since the Operation Julie case in the 1970s. Last night 12 people were being interviewed after raids in London, Scotland and at the scene of the find near Ross-on-Wye.

Precise figures on the size of the drug ring were still being compiled last night amid speculation that drugs worth up to £20 million may have been produced. The case could prove to be larger than the Julie investigation and may have links with Australasia and the United States.

After a five-month investigation by Scotland Yard's central drugs squad and the regional crime squad based in the west Midlands under the codename of Operation Donna, police believe they have found not only the source of the LSD but also key sections of the distribution chain.

The factory was hidden in a house set on a hill overlooking the river near Ross-on-Wye. It can be reached by a winding track and was raided early on Thursday by a team of plainclothes officers who arrested some Americans and a French Canadian. The house had been rented for about three years.

After the LSD was produced it was impregnated into sheets of paper printed with squares each bearing a design. Later the squares were cut up and sold, according to their dosages, from £3 to £8 each. The printed designs on the squares were varied, from red dragons to psychedelic globes, the Joker and Batman, to create a marketing gimmick and in an attempt to persuade police that the drug was coming from different sources.

In the house police seized 100,000 printed and impregnated squares, glassware, several thousand pounds in cash and artwork used to produce the designs. They also searched the one-acre garden.

Another eight people were held in raids in London early yesterday. Detectives suspect that the ring has been producing drugs for more than a year. They were first alerted to the possibility of domestic production by a rise in the use of LSD over the past two years. Information prompted Scotland Yard, West Mercia police and number four regional crime squad to start work with a team of 30 to 40 officers. They used the car park of a local public house as a base from which to mount surveillance on the house.

LSD was highly fashionable in the 1960s among young people but slipped from general use in the 1970s. It maintained a loyal following and police assumed that many of the seizures in Britain came from European laboratories. Annual seizures have hovered between about 300 and 450 in recent years.

Repossessions expected to be at record levels

THE number of properties repossessed from home owners unable to keep up mortgage payments last year will be shown to be at record levels when the Council of Mortgage Lenders publishes its 1990 figures later this month (Christopher Warman writes).

Figures for the first six months of last year were higher than for any comparable period, and the council acknowledges that the position worsened from June to December 1990. It was yesterday unable to confirm that repossessions for the year totalled about 35,000 or that arrears of more than six months were up by a third.

The figures would be expected to show some increase, as they will include for the first time repossessions and arrears from among the one million borrowers with 14 banks and other lenders. Previously the figures have been based only on the eight million building society mortgage holders.

Evidence of the worsening situation comes, however, from the county courts, which in many areas have recorded a substantial increase in repossession hearings.

The latest published figures, for the first six months of 1990, showed that 14,390 homes had been repossessed, against 7,390 in the same period of 1989 and 13,740 in the whole of 1989.

Halifax mortgages, page 38

Continuing stalemate over Ulster talks

From A CORRESPONDENT IN BELFAST

HOPES of imminent movement in the political stalemate of Northern Ireland evaporated yesterday after a meeting of the Anglo-Irish inter-governmental conference in Dublin.

In the joint communique issued after the meeting on Thursday both sides said that they considered the gap between the participants had diminished and hoped that outstanding issues could be resolved to enable talks to begin.

But Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, yesterday rejected any suggestion that the Irish government and Gerard Collins, the Irish foreign minister, could dictate the terms of talks.

Mr Collins is understood to have rejected suggestions that the Unionists would take part in talks with Dublin only as part of a UK delegation, claiming that that would not be genuine North-South dialogue but merely a variant of the continuing talks between the two governments.

Mr Paisley said: "If his attitude is that the how, where and when these talks are to take place are his prerogative, then he is acting in keeping with being the foreign secretary of a hostile nation as far as we are concerned, and there can be no talks."

Meanwhile, Sinn Fein delegates from Northern Ireland attending the party's annual conference in Dublin today are expected to endorse the IRA's continuing campaign of violence.

Led by Gerry Adams, MP, president of Sinn Fein, their stance will quell hopes for a ceasefire being sought for political reasons by less hardline members of the party. Sinn Fein's share of the vote in the general election in the Irish Republic in 1989 was less than 2 per cent and some delegates will argue that advancement at the polls throughout the country is being severely hampered by the ferocity of the terror campaign.

They fear that the party will suffer even greater electoral humiliation in the local elections in June unless it renounces violence, and say that arrests of IRA terrorists in Britain and on the European mainland has badly hit the "military structure".

They also criticise recent firebombings in Northern Ireland which have led to hundreds of job losses. This, they maintain, is contrary to Sinn Fein policies on employment.

Delegates supportive of the campaign of violence are expected to win the day, however, and the "doves" are likely to be rebuked by Mr Adams in his keynote speech today on policy. He has always insisted that the military and political factions go hand in hand, and will insist that a ceasefire would drive a wedge between these factions.

● Army and RAF helicopter operations along the border continued normally yesterday in spite of an IRA attack on Thursday night on an RAF Wessex helicopter.

The helicopter was hit by at least two shots as it took off during darkness from the Forkhill army and police base in south Armagh. Damage was slight and the aircraft was able to continue on its journey.

Civil servant jailed for false claims

By DAVID YOUNG

A SENIOR civil servant who dishonestly claimed more than £900 in expenses, including the costs of attending an interview for a £67,000-a-year post he was later offered, was jailed for four months yesterday.

William Healey, aged 48, was an under-secretary running the Treasury's central computer telecommunications agency when he lied about staying in hotels, falsely claimed for a restaurant meal and altered dates on receipts.

At Southwark crown court, south London, Judge Halnan told Healey, of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, that had he pleaded guilty a suspended sentence could have been considered. He said, however, that the degree of trust given to Healey in his job meant he had no alternative but to jail him even though he accepted the amount of the false claims was "comparatively trivial".

The judge said that Healey was hitherto of impeccable character and had reached a very high rink through ability, hard work, sacrifice and dedication. Healey was found guilty of four charges of deception. The jury, which spent two days considering its verdicts, cleared him of four other counts of deception.

During the 13-day trial, the court was told that the offences were committed over six months starting in late 1989.

● A senior West Mercia police officer is under investigation over alleged irregularities in expenses claims. The officer involved, who has not been named, is presently on sick leave.

Celebrating Scots bard whose rhyme held little reason

McGonagall: Eulogies to the rasp of paper on combs

By KERRY GILL

THE life and works of William McGonagall, universally recognised as the world's worst poet, are to be celebrated this month almost 90 years after his death when the first McGonagall supper is held by supporters weary of the growing number of Burns' nights.

Instead of the traditional address to the haggis, those gathering in the Aberdour hotel, Dumfries, will deliver an oration to a bowl of stovies — potatoes stewed with onions.

Eulogies to McGonagall, rhyming as best they can, will be accompanied with the rasp of paper on combs instead of the wail of bagpipes. Hector Campbell, the organiser, expects at least 60 people to attend the supper, during which samples of McGonagall's tortuous — some might say torturous — verse will be read. The Scottish bard spent the latter years of his life in Dumfries and was buried there.

McGonagall is thought to have been born in Edinburgh in 1830 and died in 1902. Dundee was his adoptive home and it was there that he wrote a lament to the Tay Bridge disaster:

Beautiful Railway Bridge of the
Silv'ry Tay!
Alas, I am very sorry to say
That ninety lives have been
taken away
On the last Sabbath day of 1879
Which will be remember'd for a
very long time.

It is for such doggerel that McGonagall rates a mention in Collins' English Dictionary. His work, it says, is noted for its bathos, repetitive rhymes, poor scansion and ludicrous effect. McGonagall, it seems, set out to achieve a mournful tone, but he usually succeeded in leaving readers splitting their sides.

Mr Campbell said that Burns's position in the literary hierarchy, when set against Byron, Shelley and Shakespeare, was disputed, but there was no question that McGonagall was the world's worst. "This supper is a snipe at the establishment. I am a great admirer of Burns, but not of Burnsians. Burns would be scunnered [much put off] by some of the hypocrites who attend suppers in his name," he said.

During the supper, one participant will produce a yellowed parchment claiming it to be a long-lost McGonagall verse, but it is unlikely to be awful enough to convince. So proud was McGonagall of his poetry that he set out on foot from Dundee to Balmoral to recite a verse to Queen Victoria. He was stopped at the gates.

Burns: "Scunnered by the hypocrites at his suppers"

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Soldiers start patrols on Moscow streets

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A SMALL contingent of Soviet soldiers began patrolling Moscow yesterday despite accusations by the Russian legislature that the patrols are unconstitutional.

In the Kremlin, President Gorbachev met leaders of the republics, who are angry over the deployment of Soviet troops on their streets, as well as military attacks on civilians in the Baltic republics that have killed 20 people. Six of the 15 Soviet republics have denounced the patrols, which Soviet security officials say are needed to fight rising crime. Some reformers say that the patrols are the first step towards a state of emergency.

General Nikolai Mirikov, of the interior ministry, said the deployment began quietly in Moscow early yesterday, starting with 36 soldiers on duty in the city's nine railway stations. The troops are to operate in patrols of four, which include a policeman and an army officer armed with pistols, and two ordinary soldiers armed with bayonet knives, he said.

The Moscow patrols will be extended after dark to include 300 to 540 soldiers, according to figures given by the general. Five or six teams will be assigned to each of the city's 30 districts, patrolling about 100 routes. General Mirikov said: "There will be not one tank, not one armoured personnel carrier." He promised that no soldiers would be deployed during demonstrations, as democracy activists have feared. Interior ministry officials refused to say whether the soldiers had begun patrols elsewhere in the country. The patrols were authorized in a decree signed secretly on December 29 by General Dmitri Yazov, the defence minister, and Boris Pugo, the interior minister.

Officials in Georgia, Lithuania and Latvia, which rejected the patrol order, said they had no immediate reports of soldiers on duty on their streets. "We have the usual tanks and trucks driving past," said Arune Taunyte, of the Lithuanian parliamentary press office. Troops remain in control of the television station and the newspaper publishing plant, but there was no sign of patrols on the streets, she said. Lithuanian police had been told to expect 40 foot soldiers and 18 armed vehicles on patrol and setting up checkpoints around the republic.

The chief of the military district in Estonia, Vice-Admiral Yuri Belov, said there would be no military patrols there because they were not needed, the Estonian news agency reported.

In Moscow, reporters followed a four-man patrol at Kazan railway station as it removed a one-legged beggar from the front steps and chased several youths from a stairwell where they had been smoking. "I'm unarmed," said the young army officer, opening his greatcoat and smiling broadly.

Early action: a one-legged vagrant being removed from Kazan railway station yesterday by one of the first military patrols in Moscow

Estonians gamble on referendum

From ANATOL LIEVEN
IN VILNIUS

THE Estonian Supreme Council's decision to hold a referendum on the issue of independence on March 3 reverses the long-standing position of the Baltic republic's national movement, and means taking a considerable risk.

The results of the Baltic referendums will have implications for Russian minorities in all the Soviet republics. Dr Edgar Savisaar, the Estonian prime minister, said the nationalist government might be replaced by Moscow, and the administration must therefore establish an unquestionable legal basis for independence to bind any future government. The vote is also meant to pre-empt the Soviet referendum on the creation of a new federation, due to be held on March 17.

The immigration of Russian speakers under Soviet rule has reduced Estonians to only 61 per cent of the total population, however. Opinion polls last year showed that more than 20 per cent of Russian speakers might back independence, which would give a two-thirds majority, but less support would suggest that local Russians oppose secession. The Soviet secession law, which Estonians do not recognise, demands a two-thirds majority.

Gorbachev wins support from party

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachev yesterday presided over a meeting of the Council of the Federation, the top Soviet executive body, boosted by convincing backing for most of his policies from the Communist party's central committee.

Thursday's meeting of the central committee, augmented by regional party leaders and the heads of the country's military regions, reaffirmed the need to progress to a market economy, and echoed the statement made by Mr Gorbachev on the Baltic republics, in which he had implicitly condemned groups which aspired to take power by unconstitutional means. Although belated, his words were interpreted as dissociating himself from the self-styled Lithuanian National Salvation Committee, which had been instrumental in calling out the army. The committee, which announced its dissolution without making its members known, was believed to have close links with the pro-Moscow Lithuanian Communist party.

The central committee plenum heard contributions not only from senior Communist officials in Lithuania, but also from the head of the party organisation in the Vilnius radio instruments factory, where the salvation committee was said to have had its headquarters, suggesting that an inquest was conducted into the events in the Lithuanian capital.

President Gorbachev also emerged from the plenum without apparently facing a challenge to his leadership of the party. Some had predicted he would be criticised by hardliners for devoting too little attention to the party, and from more liberal central committee members who believed he should hold either the presidency or the party leadership, but not both. Official reports indicate that this question was not raised.

However, Gennadi Yanayev, who was elected state vice-president last month, was removed from the politburo and the secretariat on the ground that he needed to concentrate on the vice-presidency. If, as some believe, Mr Yanayev was foisted on Mr Gorbachev by the party leadership, his removal from the hierarchy may have been a move by Mr Gorbachev to curb his influence. Mr Yanayev was in Norway at the time of the plenum.

In what appears to have been a sop to the party's conservative wing, the central committee announced that it would investigate recent published statements by Academician Stanislav Shatalin, co-author of the radical 500-day programme for economic reform. Mr Shatalin has recently launched several outspoken attacks on Mr Gorbachev.

The support Mr Gorbachev appears to have won from the committee would have stood him in good stead at yesterday's meeting of the federation council, where he was expected to face severe criticism after the loss of life in Lithuania and Latvia.

The previous council meeting, concluded only hours before tanks killed unarmed protesters at the Vilnius television tower, had agreed that the conflicts in the Baltic region should be solved exclusively by political means.

The council, on which all republic leaders sit, was yesterday scheduled to discuss the draft union treaty, the division of powers between the centre and the republics, and the Baltic situation.

Croatian warning to army

Zagreb — A senior Croatian government official warned the Yugoslav army yesterday that any attempt to arrest Martin Spegelj, the Croatian defence minister, would "lead immediately to civil war" (Richard Bassett writes).

The Yugoslav army ordered Mr Spegelj's detention after allegations that he was involved in planning attacks on army personnel. Slaven Latica, an adviser to the Croatian president, said yesterday that Mr Spegelj's movements were being carefully planned by Croatian security officers to prevent his seizure by the Yugoslav army. Mr Latica said, however: "They have helicopters and armoured cars, but if they took him it would be civil war."

Bush nominated

Oslo — President Bush and Nelson Mandela, the deputy president of the African National Congress, were among those proposed for the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize as the deadline for nominations passed. Vidar Kleppe, of the right-wing Norwegian Progress Party, said he nominated Mr Bush for his role in leading the allies against Iraq in the Gulf war. *(Reuter)*

Etchings swindle

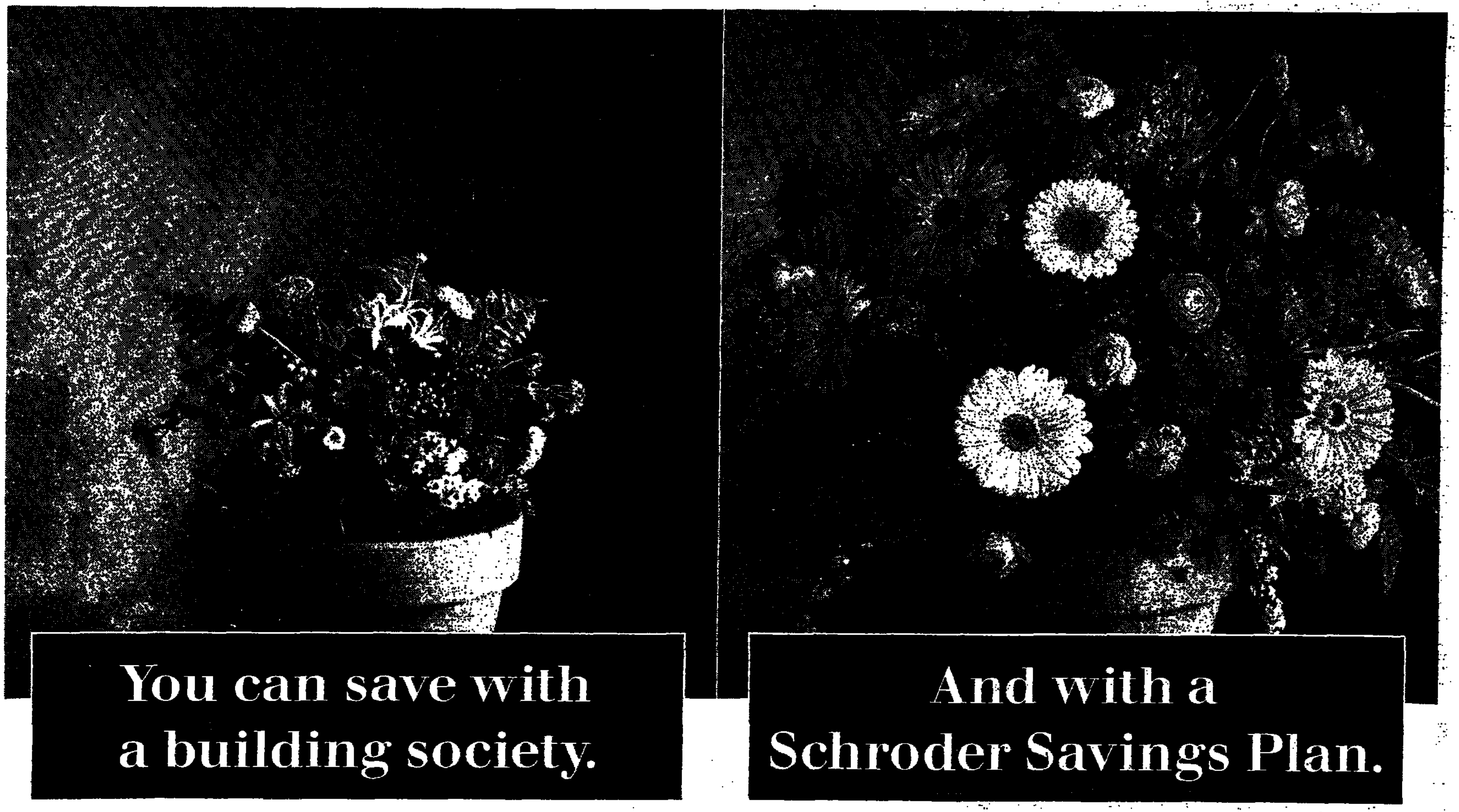
Stockholm — Swedish and Danish police have uncovered what they describe as the largest-ever art swindle in Scandinavia, seizing 850 forged etchings attributed to Joan Miró and Salvador Dalí, the Spanish artists, with a market value of £6.85 million. Swedish police said that four Danes had been arrested, one in Sweden and three in Denmark. *(Reuter)*

Abortion defeat

Ottawa — The Canadian government's abortion bill, which would have prohibited abortions, except where a doctor certified a mother's health was at risk, has been defeated in the Senate on a tied vote. It had narrowly passed in the House of Commons, but the government said it would not try again if this bill was defeated.

Sword returned

Bogotá — Former Colombian M19 guerrillas, in a gesture of reconciliation, returned the sword of Simón Bolívar, the Latin American independence hero, to the museum they stole it from 17 years ago. Antonio Navarro, head of the former rebels, handed the sword to a group of children as President Gaviria watched. *(Reuter)*



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Brazil freezes prices and pay to beat inflation

From LOUISE BYRNE IN RIO DE JANEIRO

BRAZIL has unveiled a surprise economic package, with food prices frozen indefinitely, salaries adjusted twice yearly instead of monthly, and prices of petrol, postal and telephone services, gas and electricity increased by up to 71 per cent.

The government has also removed the treasury bonds index which linked prices to inflation, and abolished the short-term money market accounts which yielded very high rates of interest.

The measures announced on Thursday night are the most radical since the economic plan which was introduced in March last year by the new government of President Collor de Mello.

Within hours of the announcement of the latest measures by Zelia Cardoso de Mello, the economy minister, long queues formed outside cash points and continued into the night as people tried to withdraw money for the weekend. The banks were closed yesterday to adjust to the new measures. Tourists found it difficult to convert dollars at bureaux de change.

Although the population was taken by surprise by the measures, the financial market had been agitated for several days, and shops and supermarkets had begun to raise prices excessively amid speculation of a freeze. The retail trade is now banned from raising prices and the government has said that it will re-employ laid-off staff to control prices.

Brazilians are receiving the news with some cynicism. The country has one of the world's most complicated economies, which suffers under governments that make repeated imaginative efforts to check inflation.

The latest measures came on the same day as the first indicator of inflation for January showed 20.21 per cent, the highest rate since the new government took office. However, Senhora Cardoso de Mello said on national television that the measures had been planned for some time and were simply adding detail to the original proposals. "The present level of price rises is not compatible with economic stability," she said.

Last March, as the world's eighth biggest economy, Brazil suffered one of the most drastic reductions ever of money in circulation as the government froze 80 per cent of the country's savings for 18 months. Large-scale privatisation and an end to import restrictions were also announced and the currency changed from the new cruzado to the cruzeiro.

In the month before the plan, inflation had reached more than 80 per cent for the month or 3 per cent a day. As one of his campaign pledges, President Collor promised that he would bring down inflation to under 10 per cent in three months. This was accomplished, but after 10 months' inflation is again rising.

The latest measures are seen an attempt to salvage an economic plan which is foundering.

Peking to vet colony airport

From JONATHAN BRAUDE
IN HONG KONG

HONG KONG will present China with a list of "options" for the timing and construction of its multi-billion-pound airport later this month, as an apparent concession to Peking's demands for a say in the project.

The options paper, disclosed yesterday by Lord Caithness, the Foreign Office minister with responsibility for Hong Kong, is seen as giving Peking a virtual right of veto over Hong Kong's ambitious infra-structure plans before it reverts to Chinese control in 1997. China has expressed fears that the ambitious plans to build the airport on reclaimed land in Hong Kong harbour will drain the territory's coffers.

The paper appears to reflect Britain's determination to improve relations with China, as a reward for the country's cooperation, albeit half-hearted, over the Gulf war.

Although China abstained in the United Nations vote authorising the use of force against Iraq, Lord Caithness pointed out that Peking had used its veto on a number of occasions in the past. He did not say what options were included in the paper, but said it had been drawn up after the visit to Peking last week of Sir David Wilson, the governor of Hong Kong.

China-Hong Kong relations suffered a serious setback last month when a series of Chinese officials demanded that Peking should have a say in any project that would have an impact after 1997.

Feminists fall out in the rape debate

From CHARLES BREMNER IN NEW YORK

IN THE old days parents would tell an errant daughter "you only have yourself to blame" before casting her out of the house for some sexual transgression. In 1991, after three decades of enlightenment and sexual liberation, the same phrase is being heard again, but this time from some feminists who deplore the excesses of a crusade over female consent and sexual harassment.

For months, the media have been reporting an epidemic of "date" or "acquaintance" rape at the universities. According to a widely circulated figure, now under challenge, one in every four women students is raped at least once at college and one in three American women is sexually assaulted in her lifetime.

To judge by the reports, young American men are indulging in an orgy of sexual bullying and worse. At Brown University, Rhode Island, women have been writing the names of male student "date rapists" on their bathroom walls. Across the country, colleges are holding classes in which women are instructed on how to recognise assault.

In Congress, a senate committee is working on a plan to define rape as a "gender-based hate crime", which would make it punishable under federal civil rights statutes as well as state criminal codes.

A student at Dartmouth University in New Hampshire was expelled after a woman student brought a charge of sexual abuse over an incident in which he had kissed her at a party two years earlier.

At the University of California, Santa Barbara, a group of students have filed sexual harassment charges against a professor who made an off-the-cuff joke about *Penthouse* pets in a lecture.

No one is denying the gravity of the crime of rape, but critics are accusing women of trivialising the issue in a fog of anti-male ideology that conflicts with common sense.

Camille Paglia, a University of Philadelphia professor, said: "Leaving sex to the feminists is like letting your dog vacation at the taxidermist's." She added: "Feminism, with its pie-in-the-sky fantasies about the perfect world, keeps young women from seeing life as it is."

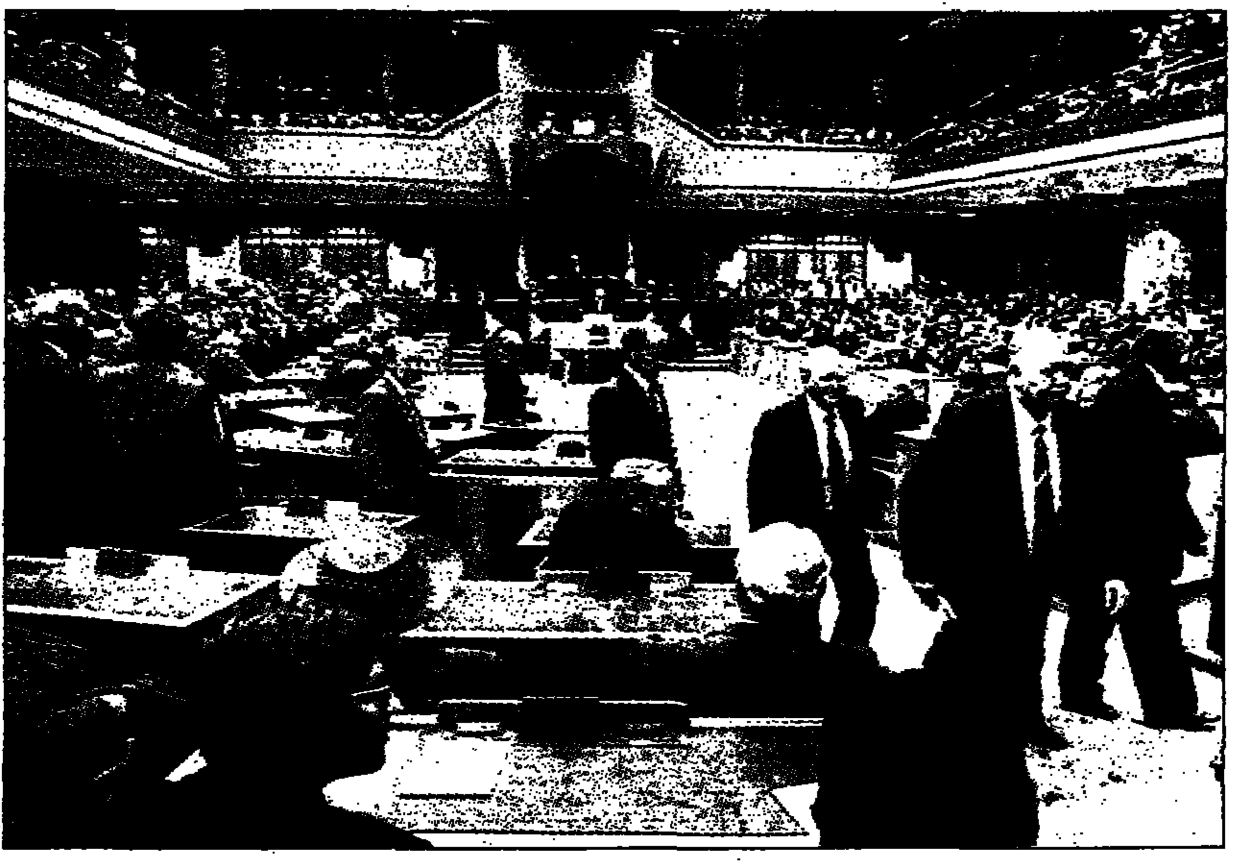
Ms Paglia's point is that women should accept that men are biologically programmed as the aggressor and they *should stop blaming* society and crying assault. Instead, they should revert to the precautions women have always taken to avoid "being taken advantage of". A girl who gets drunk at a party or goes upstairs with a fellow-student is a fool, says Ms Paglia. "Feminists call this blaming the victim; I call it common sense.

"Feminists have told young women that before they have sex with a man they must give consent as explicit as a legal contract's," notes Ms Paglia. "In this way, young women have been convinced that they have been the victims of rape."

Several of the campaigners for a reform in male attitudes to the rituals of "dating" are now acknowledging that women should take more responsibility for themselves. Susan Brownmiller, the veteran feminist, told *The New York Times* that women needed to react more quickly "and not expect the law to come fighting for them after the fact".

New South Africa to arise on ruins of racist laws

From GAVIN BELL
IN CAPE TOWN



Exit right: Conservative party members walk out of parliament after President de Klerk announced his plans

WITHIN a few months, a new generation of South Africans will no longer be stigmatised at birth by their racial origins.

For the first time in almost 80 years, they may buy and own land wherever they have the means to do so, and there will be no racist laws proscribing where they may – or may not – live.

Such are the effects of sweeping reforms announced in parliament yesterday by President de Klerk as a prelude to negotiations on a post-apartheid constitution. The measures will do more to destroy the ivory tower of white supremacy in South Africa than even Mr de Klerk's historic decision, precisely one year ago, to unban the African National Congress and release Nelson Mandela, its leader, from prison.

Roelof "Pik" Botha, the foreign minister, told reporters that the government had dismantled "two and three-quarters" of the four surviving pillars of apartheid.

The last pillar intact is the constitution, which will be rewritten in forthcoming negotiations. The fraction refers to continuing race classification, under the terms of the doomed Population Registration Act. Gerrit Viljoen, the minister of constitutional development, said the existing population register would be maintained in compliance with the present constitution and electoral acts, but it would disappear when a new constitution was introduced. In the meantime, he said: "All (new) race classification stops from the moment of the repeal of the Act." Thus while the 28 million blacks, five million whites and four million other races who inhabit South Africa are still technically identified by the colour of their skins, the laws which discriminated between them are destined for the scrapheap of history.

It would be naive, however, to pretend that the reforms will have an immediate impact. Economic factors and racial prejudice among right-wing whites have diminished the effects of similar reforms last year which opened hospitals and other social services and amenities to all races.

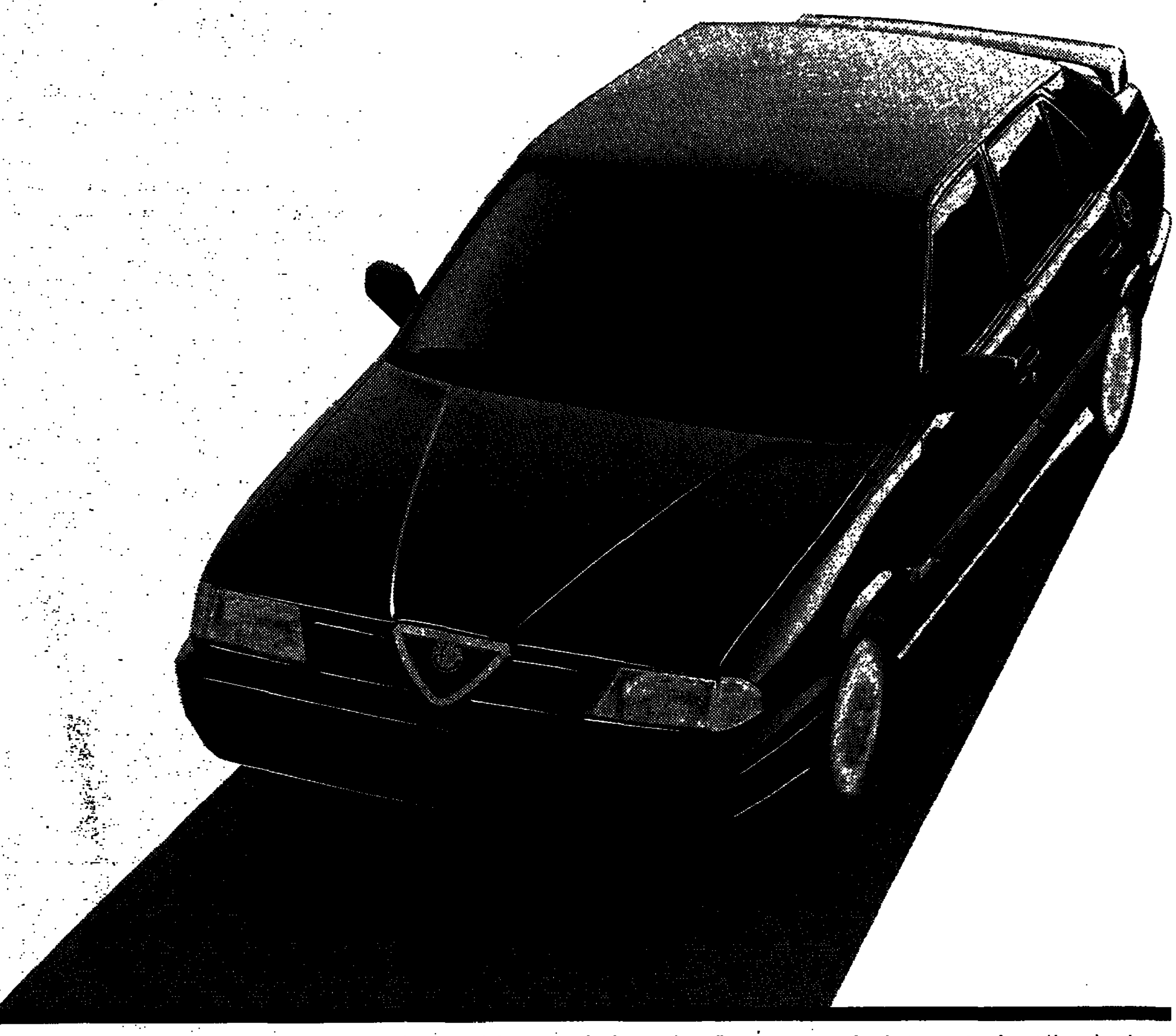
While the repeal of the Group Areas Act is certain to lead to the expansion of multiracial communities in the cities, the white stranglehold on 87 per cent of the land, as decreed by the Land Acts, will be considerably tougher to break.

Mr de Klerk summed up the dilemma: "No one dare underestimate the emotions, and even the conflict potential, relating to land rights. Everybody has a natural need for access to land and its utilisation ..FS2. much more is necessary than the mere repeal of discriminatory legislation."

In a carefully timed move, homeless blacks erected squatters' shacks in Johannesburg to press their demands for decent housing. Municipal workers demolished them, but the point was made that the plight of landless blacks is critical.

Leading article, page 11

AN ALFA ROMEO 33 FOR THE PRICE OF AN ORDINARY CAR. KEEP IT DARK.



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Richard Lynn argues that Darwinian principles predispose mankind to conflict

Curbing our inbred desire for war

War is a great evil, yet war is so common that it can almost be thought of as the natural condition of mankind. Can it be that we have a biological instinct for war? The answer is yes, we have.

This has been the conclusion of many influential thinkers in both biology and social science. In biology, the first statement came from Charles Darwin in 1871 in *The Descent of Man*. He argued that just as physiological characteristics help to ensure the survival of the fittest, the same evolutionary processes operate at a psychological level, notably a propensity for warfare.

Imagine two adjacent tribes. One is peaceable and has no liking for war. Its boys are brought up to settle disputes by peaceful negotiation. Its neighbour, however, is highly warlike. Boys are encouraged to fight, and the best fighters are rewarded. Its people enjoy warfare and they fight with enthusiasm and conviction. Sooner or later the warlike tribe picks a quarrel with its peaceable neighbour. It starts a war, which it is bound to win.

The warlike tribe then takes over the territory of the peaceful tribe. It kills the men and impregnates the women. Now it has increased its territory and can breed a corresponding increase in its population. The genes for warfare have spread and the genes for peacefulness have been extinguished.

Warfare between neighbours has been endemic throughout recorded history and back into prehistory. Over millions of years of evolution the genes predisposing people to war have become universal in the human species. Any peoples in which they were not present have long been extinct.

Many social scientists have arrived at the same view. Herbert Spencer was the first to set out the principles of what he called "the dual code", by which most of us feel positively towards members of our own group, be it nation, political party, company or religion, and negatively towards other groups. These feelings generate cohesion and loyalty and can easily be whipped up for warfare.

Sociobiologists, who combine the biological and social-science approaches in the study of human behaviour, have shown that we are not the only warlike species. Most apes and monkeys are social animals which will fight to gain new territory or to defend their own. But the species that most closely resembles our own in organised warfare between populations numbering millions is the ant. Like us, ants fight for the same objective, to gain territory from their neighbours, or to defend their territories from takeover. The same evolutionary principles have been at work.

It is a characteristic of any biologically programmed behaviour that people enjoy it. Sex and eating are two obvious examples. If they were not pleasurable, people would not engage in them. They would fail to reproduce, and would die. It is the same with war. For who can doubt that, however sanctimonious their talk, people enjoy war. In times of peace we enjoy other people's wars, an endless stream of war films and war games. But the real thing is better. In the past fortnight young men in Britain have been flocking into military recruitment centres in two or three times their usual numbers, eager to sign on, just as they did in August 1914 and as they have always done.

Interest in war and fighting appears in quite young children and is a major theme in boys' games. The function of play in childhood is to gain experience in skills that will be needed in adulthood. Prominent in the play of boys are fighting and war play. Small boys seek out and demand the instruments for killing — toy guns, tanks, fighter planes and warships. Some well-meaning parents forbid their sons from having war toys, but in the end the boys generally have their own way. Interest in war and enjoyment of fighting appear to develop spontaneously in small boys rather in the same way that interest in sex develops spontaneously among older boys. In both cases these interests are biologically programmed.

Now that we have developed weapons of mass destruction, the biologically determined propensity to warfare is one of mankind's most serious problems. The danger that someone like Saddam Hussein will get hold of these weapons and use them is constantly present.

Nevertheless, biologically programmed propensities can be held in check. For many centuries in Christendom, the sexual drive was kept so well under control by social constraints that many people were celibate until they married in their late twenties. It is equally possible to curtail the biological propensity to warfare.

For this purpose we need international agreement to prevent the absurdity of the technologically advanced nations selling sophisticated weapons to countries such as Iraq. It will also be necessary for the United Nations to act decisively where and whenever an aggressor nation attacks a neighbour. The near unanimity with which the UN has acted in the Gulf is an encouraging sign that the biological propensity for war may yet be kept in check.

The author is professor of psychology at the University of Ulster.

Jim McCue

Achievement spelt out

Because spelling stratifies society, as David Lipsey argued here last week, all children should be encouraged to spell well. Lowering our expectations of some children is a patronising way of confirming their disadvantages. Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, is right to make exams mirror the adult world.

To deny children proper standards is to bewilder them. The laxity of schools that neglect basic skills such as spelling has led to more division: to the large class of semi-literates whom no-one wishes to employ, and to the boom in private education. No child should be denied the pleasure of disciplined thought by sloppy schooling.

"Shamed by your English?" advertisements play upon the fear of discovery in which many live. Afraid to express themselves for fear of embarrassment, these people are passive, unlikely to complain about shoddy service or claim their rights. In awe of serious newspapers, they limit themselves to the monosyllabic tabloids and their unshaded responses. So national discourse and private lives are impoverished by fear of long words.

Under pressure from the 3Rs lobby, teachers sometimes claim that their pupils, though failing in academic tests, are confident and well-adjusted. But one cannot be confident without being able to meet life's demands — for instance, a job application. If one cannot communicate, only bravado is left. Employers, who list ability to communicate as the most desirable skill, do not find such recruits well-adjusted, for they do not fit into the realm of work.

Those who rely upon calculators from an early age may never see the symmetry of, say, the nine-times table. Those who rely upon computer spellchecks will never see patterns in language. When a person writes "a full compliment", the spellcheck will not correct him, and he has failed to see the sense of completement inherent in "complement". Machines can provide information, but without context this never becomes knowledge.

It is possible to communicate in ungrammatical English, but ability to parse helps one to structure thoughts and analyse reasoning; bad spelling may not always cause misinterpretation, yet spelling is an index of ability with language and ideas. Acquiring this knowledge does require concentration, but it can be fun. Good spellers absorb words from an early age. Through nursery rhymes, anagrams, puns and so on, they become conversant with the pleasures and playfulness of language, its resourcefulness and its history. But it is through habitual reading that one learns to spell, and not to penalise bad spelling is to indicate a lack of concern for our whole written culture.

As well as a matter of good manners, then, good spelling is an indication of acculturation, of imaginative engagement with the world. For good spelling is a concomitant of the intimate dialogue that is reading.

One who writes "dissapeared" has failed to understand the idea of the prefix and is ignorant of the nature of words, for he cannot see how they are built and connected. Learning the spelling of "cupboard" or "Caesarean" means glimpsing social history; thinking about the derivation of "making a good impression" offers enlightenment about words as metaphors and how words relate to the world.

Words have important tales to tell — consider "Renaissance", "democracy" or "discrimination" — and knowing something of their derivations, associations and usage is essential to understanding their full implication and tone.

The life of the language may seem to be of only academic interest, but it is the key to our being. Language is the vehicle of our historical sense, which involves, in the words of T.S. Eliot, "a perception, not only of the pastness of the past, but of its presence". The original editors of the *Oxford English Dictionary* — that finest record of all that English words have spelt — knew that such an undertaking had to be arranged "on historical principles", and it is dismaying that this commitment has been dropped from the title page of the second edition.

More than "functional literacy" is necessary if we are to do more than function. A full and fulfilling inner life, and a moral sense, develop only through an exchange with others, and for that, language is vital. The examined life must be put into words, internally or externally, for it relies upon ability to reason and discriminate.

Let those words be eloquent and properly known, away from the deluge of clichés that nullifies individuality. Only with accurate command of a wide vocabulary can we think for and about ourselves, for the self — the voice in the head we call consciousness — is verbal.

Killed by its own success

Alan Ryan marks the passing of Encounter, notorious for its CIA funding and obsessive anti-communism

Mixed emotions are induced by the death of *Encounter*. The loss of any outlet for intelligent social and literary commentary is a shame, yet *Encounter* was so much a creature of the cold war, and so much the vehicle of an obsessively anti-communist brand of American liberalism, that it is hard to believe it has only just ceased publication.

It carried some wonderful essays, reviews and short stories, but for the past 23 years lived under the shadow of the discovery that it had been financed by the Central Intelligence Agency and was for its first ten years part of an intellectual covert operation.

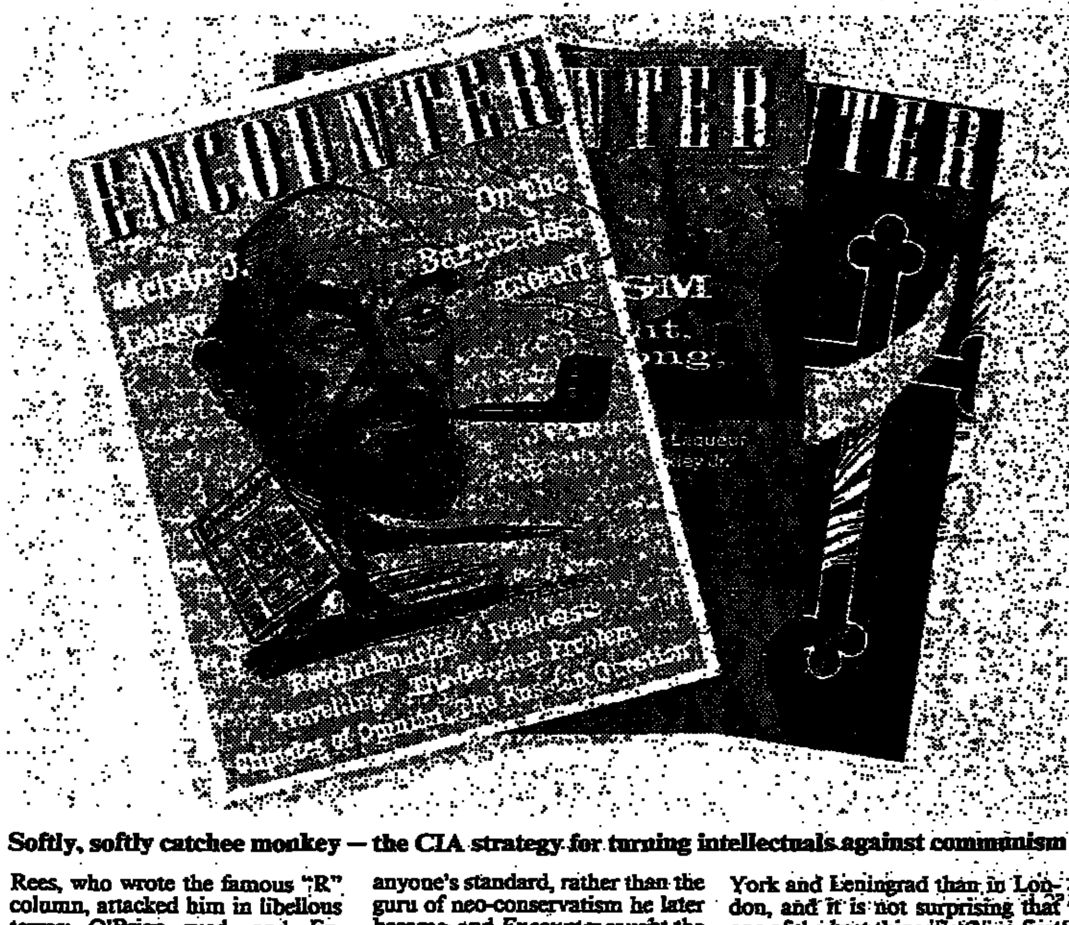
The fiasco of its uncovering early in 1967 was aptly described by *The Sunday Times* Insight team as "a literary Bay of Pigs". *Encounter* was published by the Paris-based Congress for Cultural Freedom, which sought to rally the free-world intelligentsia behind liberal social and political institutions and against totalitarianism of all kinds. The CCF laid on conferences and cultural jamborees, and funded half-a-dozen *Encounter*-like magazines in Europe and Australia.

The congress was dreamt up in 1950 by the young Melvin Lasky, working at the time in West Berlin. But its sponsor, apparently unbeknown to him, was the CIA. Thomas Braden, a middle-ranking CIA official, persuaded Allen Dulles, shortly to become head of the agency, that European liberals and social democrats were America's best intellectual defence against communism.

The CIA contained enough liberals to understand that hysterical anti-communism played badly outside America, and that "softly softly catchee monkee" was the only plausible strategy. Clandestine funds were also channelled to other intellectual enterprises and to approved student and trade union groups.

Critics always suspected that the CCF got at least some of its money from the CIA, and *Encounter* was, from the beginning, accused of a one-sided obsession with the evils of communism and a culpable lack of interest in the shortcomings of American society. Bertrand Russell, who was among the first vice-chairmen, resigned on discovering that he was not allowed to insult American anti-communism with the same enthusiasm he used to attack Stalinism.

In May 1966, Conor Cruise O'Brien denounced *Encounter* as a covert mouthpiece of American government policy; Goronwy Rees, who wrote the famous "R" column, attacked him in libellous terms; O'Brien sued, and *Encounter*'s defence crumbled the following February, when Braden went public — unrepentantly so — and confirmed that O'Brien was right.



Softly, softly catchee monkey — the CIA strategy for turning intellectuals against communism

There was more than a hint of bad faith here: three years earlier, *Encounter* had sought new, untainted owners precisely because of rumours of CIA involvement. Lasky was anxious to find untainted sponsors for the magazine, but he had assured his fellow editors, Stephen Spender and Frank Kermode, that the rumours were false. Now he had the embarrassment of seeing them both walk out of the magazine. He seemed to think, however, that all was fair in a just cause.

Looking back to early numbers of *Encounter* is a curious experience. With Irving Kristol and Stephen Spender in charge, *Encounter* brought the intellectual life of New York and Chicago into a post-war Britain that had never taken much notice of all that. In 1953, Kristol was a liberal by anyone's standard, rather than the guru of neo-conservatism he later became; and *Encounter* caught the full blast of American impatience with the stuffiness and class consciousness of the English. Its tone was Columbia and City University, not Oxbridge.

Mind you, it was in *Encounter*, in its early days, that Nancy Mitford published the famous essay on "The English Aristocracy" that introduced the British to Alan Ross's distinction between "U" and "Non-U" forms of speech. And it was in *Encounter* that Evelyn Waugh wrote his memorable "An Open Letter to the Hon.ble Mrs. Peter Rodd on a Very Serious Subject" in which he dwelt much on the concept "Not Like Us" and coined the devastating label "m.i.f." — the "milk in first" classes who inhabit kitchens and nurseries and are not invited to tea in the drawing room.

Encounter had no party line; but it took intellectuals seriously in a way that still renders the English uncomfortable. The idea of an intellectual vanguard is more usually entertained in Paris, New York and Leningrad than in London, and it is not surprising that one of the best things in those first years was Isaiah Berlin's four essays on "A Marvellous Decade", which introduced English readers to a Russian intelligentsia and a romantic liberalism the vividness of which was in such striking contrast to the drab Soviet tyranny that it was never necessary to make the point explicitly.

Throughout the 1950s, *Encounter* kept up this level. Even in 1967, the year of the disclosure about the CIA funds, the list of contributors is impressive. Here is Richard Ellmann on Wilde, Clifford Geertz on Lévi-Strauss, Hugh Trevor-Roper on 17th-century witch-crazes, and a moving exchange of letters between Arnold Toynbee and J.L. Talmon about the best way to secure a lasting peace in the aftermath of the Six Day War earlier that summer. But it seems even odder than it did at the time that the magazine's own place in the politics of its times got little airing.

Those same numbers also contain a characteristic misfire, in the form of a questionnaire to assorted distinguished writers about the political role of intellectuals. James Cameron replies that he isn't one, but anyway cannot see what else they should do but take whatever side they would take as citizens; John Osborne makes his familiar reactionary noises; Auden suggests that politics is best left to politicians, and so dispiritingly on. In the entire 37 years of its existence, *Encounter* never came to terms with the futility of its obsession with the politics of English intellectuals. It never quite recognised that London is not New York.

The obsession eventually did *Encounter* no good. It was not as though there were no competing sources of reviews and social commentary. *The New York Review of Books* provided the liberal left with its house magazine; *New Society* provided an adequate diet of popular sociology, and the prosperous Sixties saw the launch of countless small literary magazines. What gave *Encounter* its purpose was what it began with: the thought that intellectuals wanted a certain kind of freedom above everything else.

This was, unsurprisingly, cultural freedom, the ability to read and write without the censor at your elbow. The magazine was insensitive to aspirations for industrial democracy, national independence, and the small economic freedoms. It could make no sense of the thought that a society could be comfortably and unobtrusively totalitarian and that perhaps suburbia was so.

It was a state of mind that had more staying power for Americans, first expiating the Trotskyism of their New York youth and then fending off 1960s' radicalism, than it could have for English liberals who had less to expiate or fend off.

The closure of *Encounter* is in the last resort a reminder of how fast the post-war world was changed. In 1953, Hitler had been dead a bare eight years, Stalin a bare month or two. Now nobody under 60 has any recollection of what it was like to live under their shadows, and whatever President Bush may say, we have no present-day monsters to rival them.

Encounter set out to persuade the thinking clases never again to be tempted by totalitarianism; for 30 years they have not been tempted, and you can't go on for ever asserting what nobody wants to deny.

The author is professor of politics at Princeton University.

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

"HOW DO you get 40 Iraqis into a telephone box?"

"No Iraqi jokes, please . . ."

"Just tell me how."

"All right," I say. "How?"

"Tell them they can't have it."

"Fine, but I've told you: the editor of *The Times* is unlikely to want a column consisting of a string of Iraqi jokes. And is that your voice on my answering machine with a joke about an allied bombing raid on Tie-Rack? Forget it."

"All right then, there are some good Belgian jokes going the rounds. What's the difference between a slice of toast and Belgians?"

"*Please . . .*"

"You can make soldiers out of a slice of toast. Goodnight."

My friend has still to grasp the essential good taste of this column. I do know one good Belgian joke, though. It's a true story. It happened to me perhaps a decade ago while driving from Luxembourg to Ostend.

The sky was a cold grey. As always in Belgium it was raining, and the countryside was flat and featureless: a passable approximation to one's idea of purgatory. Only on the skyline was the monotony broken, by a tiny, pointed hill. Eager for lunch, we left the main road and headed towards this landmark, hoping for a town. I have studied maps in the hope of finding its name for you, but the place seems to have disappeared. It did exist then, however: a small town at the foot of the hill. We parked.

As I got out of the car, a devil ran past. If it was not a devil then it was a small Belgian, dressed in a scarlet, one-piece, nylon jump-suit, black balaclava, horns and a tail.

I glanced about. A dozen more devils tore round the corner and scampered up the street, tails waving in the drizzle. There was something unusual about this town.

Devils were everywhere. A few townspeople, dressed normally like us, went about their business or watched, amused, as demons ran squealing in all directions. Not all were running. There were devils buying things in shops; devils in the bars drinking beer; and the ubiquitous vans selling hot chips with mayonnaise were surrounded by devils eating chips and trying to keep the mayonnaise off their jump-suits.

It was difficult to communicate with these creatures, but we gathered that this was some kind of ceremony. Something was going to happen.

As we watched, the movement of devils became less an eddy and more a surge — heading for the foot of the hill. So, soon, were most of the other townspeople. Shops and bars were closing, so we followed the crowd: a pied tapestry of sober-suited Flemings interspersed with flashes of diabolical scarlet.

There was a road to the top of the hill and the whole town seemed to be rushing up it. Again, we followed.

It was not far. The summit was flat. Perhaps a thousand humans and demons had gathered around a makeshift podium. On the podium were a dozen men in grey suits, and a large glass tank of goldfish.

The devils were cheering. One by one, the men in suits (who had formed a queue) took from an attendant a glass of water with a goldfish scooped into it, and drank the goldfish. Each gulp brought a new cheer.

"They are our elected municipal representatives," whispered a bystander in broken English, sensing our bewilderment. An especially loud cheer went up. "That fish was swallowed by the mayor, Mr . . ."

Our informant's words were lost in a great wave of applause, as another man in grey stepped forward and took his glass. He looked less at ease than the others. He hesitated. The fish wriggled. He lifted the glass. He swallowed. At once the crowd went wild.

"Good heavens!" said one of my companions, "I recognise him. I'm *sure* that's Wilfried Martens, the prime minister."

Our informant nodded. "Yes. He is a — how do you say? — *good sport*. No?" All the men in suits shook hands with one another and, dipping into a basket, started to throw cracker-biscuits into the crowd. Devils leapt, cheering, to catch them.

Then the men in suits got into black cars and drove off. The crowd dispersed. We left for Ostend. I have absolutely no idea what it was all about. But I think Mr Martens is still prime minister. Perhaps that explains recent developments.

THE TIMES DIARY

Lesson one: 'Take cover . . .'

Apparently taking its cue from television's Basil ("Don't mention the war") Fawlty, British Aeropsace has launched a recruitment drive for English-language teachers for its lucrative contract with the Royal Saudi Air Force which fails to mention anything unusual happening in the Gulf.

No word that their classrooms could come under Iraqi attack or that many of the teachers already there are said to be desperate to leave but have been redesignated "essential personnel" by the Saudi authorities and had their passports impounded.

Applicants are promised £55,000 tax free over two years, free food, medical care, flights and accommodation. "If you are ready to broaden your horizons and become involved in a project which promises unprecedented challenge, opportunity and reward, write with details," say the ads.

The teaching posts are part of a back-up agreement to Project Al-Yamamah, Britain's largest export deal, under which Jaguars and Tornadoes are supplied to the Saudi air force. About 500 English teachers recruited before the war are in Saudi Arabia — most in Dhahran, which has come under Scud missile attack. Despite the Saudi insistence that they stay, and BAe warnings against breaching their contracts, a number leftwith the British Council teachers evacuated when the war broke out.

Since the surprise Iraqi attack on the Saudi town of Khafji, even more are anxious to leave, though BAe denies this. "All the teachers are under contract and we are not aware of any who want to come home," says a spokesman. "It is possible that the new advertisement is to fill vacancies created in Saudi by some teachers terminating their contracts, but we are not preventing people from leaving."

However, Melanie Butler, editor of *English as a Foreign Language Gazette*, says she has evidence that up to half would leave on the first plane if they could. "They did not go there to work in a war zone, but now they are being scudded," she says. "Their families are very distressed. I think British Aerospace has behaved badly in holding them to their contracts. This advertisement is just stupid."

Memphis Decibel

The return of the American B-52 bombers to Fairford in Gloucestershire, while not appreciated by all the village's residents, at least presents little threat to the historic stained glass windows of the local church. For years churchgoers have feared that the noise from the nearby air base would crack the 28 priceless windows dating back to the 15th century and comprising the only complete set of original stained glass anywhere in England.

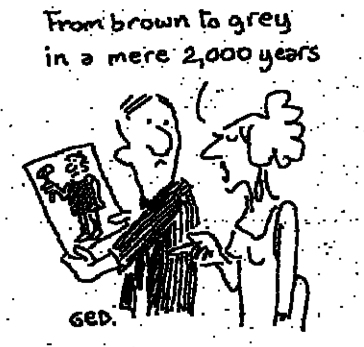
"The fears started when Concorde was being test flown in the area," says the vicar, Douglas Bell-Richards. "We called in experts to measure the noise. They found that if we pulled out all the stops on the organ the level was far more dangerous to the windows than any number of planes."

In any case, adds one member of his congregation, during the 11 years the Americans occupied the base before their departure last June, the amplified commentaries of baseball games every weekend shattered the tranquillity of the village far more than aircraft engines ever did.

Never say dye

Britain was a monochrome society — literally — until Julius Caesar introduced a dash of colour some 2,000 years ago, according to a group of York archaeologists.

Penelope Wilton and colleagues at Textile Research Associates have analysed more than 1,000 samples of cloth from archaeological sites and found not a single coloured thread in pre-Roman garb. Apart from the odd dash of woad splashed on the skin, she concludes that the ancient Brits were a colourless lot who dressed exclusively in drab brown wool. True-blue Tories have the Romans to thank for the introduction of the dye that produced their favourite colour, while socialists should thank not Keir Hardie, but the Vikings, for the process which turns the people's flag red.



The Romans also tried to introduce the imperial purple, but the absence in British waters of the necessary shellfish obliged them to fake it, says Wilton. The ancient Brits' attachment to their nondescript brown is understandable: the common purple substitute was made by stewing seven indigenous lichens in stale urine.

Hogarth homeward

The Hogarth Press, the antique treadle printing machine that produced the first editions of works such as T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*, returned home yesterday. After 60 years at Sissinghurst Castle in Kent, the press is to go on display at the Museum of Richmond in the old town hall, next door to Hogarth House where Leonard and Virginia Woolf first set up in the publishing business at the end of the first world war.

The press will form the centrepiece of an exhibition, opening next week, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Virginia Woolf's death. The Woolfs bought it in 1921 for £70.10s. and on it first printed several important literary works of the period. In 1930 they sold it for £10 to Vita Sackville-West, who installed it at Sissinghurst.

Will the press, now being reassembled, be used to print the exhibition catalogue? "Sadly not," says Simon Lace, the museum's curator. "No-one is sure if it ever worked after it was moved to Sissinghurst. Perhaps the Woolfs knew there was something wrong with it. That would explain why they sold it so cheaply."

- *A film review in the latest issue of* India Weekly *carries a postscript signed by the editor: "Our reviewer may have erred in some facts and deductions not understanding Bengali, the English subtitles being rather too speedy, and having gone to see the film solely for entertainment and relaxation." For what it is worth, the reviewer was not particularly impressed with what he saw.*

هكذا من الأجهل

TARTUFFE IN THE TREASURY

If either John Major or his Chancellor of the Exchequer, Norman Lamont, ever again calls on employers and unions to show pay restraint in the cause of lower inflation, the nation should cry, Hypocrite! The cabinet's awards this week for public sector pay are an inflationary disgrace. They suggest a prime minister more worried by the prospect of strikes before a general election than he is by inflation. He regularly insists that he would bear any electoral pain rather than sacrifice sound economic management. This clearly applies only to pain felt by others, notably those paying high interest rates on their businesses.

The government has handed out pay rises well in excess of anticipated inflation to more than a million senior civil servants, judges, consultants, doctors, nurses, teachers and soldiers, with a huge 12.2 per cent going to all the armed forces. Guiltily aware of the grotesque contrast with its advocacy of restraint in the private sector, the government has come up with two apologies.

The first is that it is paying most of the awards in stages. This enables ministers to assure the unions that the always inflationary pay review awards have been accepted, and others that £178 million has been cut from the total bill. The increase is thus not quite the recommended 10 per cent or so, but 8.5 per cent. The second excuse is that, though underlying inflation is 7 to 8 per cent and headed sharply down, ministers' hands are tied by the concept of comparability with the private sector, where figures show formal wage rises of some 9 per cent. (The unreliability of such figures is ignored as are others, collected by the CBI, showing pay deals falling towards 6 per cent.)

These are the sort of excuses ministers would excoriate had they come from local authorities or private employers. The best that can be said for them is that they do embrace some deserving groups, such as Gulf soldiers and certain key teachers, and that some boost to the economy is welcome while Britain is locked into a tough bout of ERM-linked austerity. Whether the best form of counter-cyclical pump-priming is to boost the Treasury's own pay packet is doubtful, but ministers can at least plead that public sector pay lags in boom years, so can be allowed to catch up in recession.

But this will not do. Similar arguments were invoked to defend Mrs Thatcher's pre-election decision in 1979 to honour the Clegg committee's recommendations on pay. The decision helped her win the election, but few now question that it contributed to the cycle of inflation and painful cure that followed in 1980-1. This week's awards are the children of that same winter, of the political maxim that the public sector is best bought off before an election.

The award to the armed forces is a political "war bonus". The sensible course would have been to admit as much and pay the bonus, not across the board but to those on active duty in the Gulf. The teachers also claim to be a "special case", a group hard hit by inflation and in short supply in certain subjects. The links between pay and teacher appraisal and the 30 per cent increase in incentive allowances are sound. But a tough manager balances this by saving elsewhere. The nurses and medical profession have done extremely well by the taxpayer over the past few years. Need they really have bust inflation this year?

Mr Major, at the Treasury and now at Number Ten, appears to take the view that public sector pay is best left to grand assessments of what various grades of public servants would receive in the private sector, vaguely linked to inflation. Little scope is left for discretion or the management of geographical or skill differentials. This is the big, old-style public sector at its most antediluvian. Since cash limits on health, education and other services are usually tighter than concomitant pay awards, the result is a progressive squeeze on investment and on other aspects of service quality. This is bad for the public service. It is also destructive of the government's credibility in fighting inflation.

UNPICKING APARTHEID

So apartheid is dead . . . up to a point. The concept of racial separateness evolved over the past century in South Africa has always had two sides. One, officially laid to rest in President F. W. de Klerk's speech yesterday, deprived blacks by statute of a fair share of national resources. The end of the various acts enforcing racial segregation in property and public services will formalise the steady erosion of apartheid that has taken place in recent years. Wide disparities will remain between racial groups, but they will be primarily economic, as in most third (and first) world countries, rather than statutory.

The second component excluded blacks from any political power, except within their "homelands". Within the white group, South Africa's oligarchs have enjoyed a remarkably open democracy with, for Africa, a relatively free press, judiciary and academic community. This openness has kept new ideas flowing through the ruling group and thus prepared it for the reform movement given crucial momentum in Mr de Klerk's speech of February 2 last year. This unbanned the African National Congress and released Nelson Mandela. Mr de Klerk has been astonishingly successful in maintaining this momentum, not least against his own right wing.

Now comes the final test of openness. The exclusion of blacks from all but the most primitive democratic rights has perpetuated their political immaturity. The inability of South Africa's black groups to find common cause before the promised constitutional conference is evidence of this, as is the resurgence of tribal discord. This week's meeting of Mr Mandela and Chief Buthelezi is only a first step towards reconciliation.

Mr de Klerk has indicated, to the amazement of the more cynical critics of Afrikaner nationalism, that he wishes to see stable, universal and respected democracy in South Africa. How remains obscure. Africa is sufficiently awash in political primitivism to make both white and black South Africans pause before rushing to the ANC's preferred system of "one person, one vote in a unitary state".

South Africa is enjoying an open season for constitution-builders. The full enfranchisement of blacks, awaiting legislation replacing the doomed population registration act, cannot be long delayed. Nor can there be any question of the "entrenched rights" sought by frightened whites elsewhere in Africa. But no witness of modern Africa (or Europe) can pretend that "groups", however defined, can be left at the mercy of a single national power élite — at least not if there is to be stable government. Hence the interest in building democratic foundations in local and provincial government, in the constitutional layer cake of confederalism, in the swift integration of coloureds and blacks into the upper ranks of security and administration.

One thing is surely clear. South Africa is embarking on the same process of black political and economic integration as was begun in the 1960s in the American south, where it is by no means complete. Similar tensions are likely to arise, requiring the same courage to ease them. The ostracism of South Africa over the past two decades left it in comparative peace (by third world standards) to seek its own political salvation — nothing is more absurd than for foreigners to claim any credit for Mr de Klerk's reforms. But the case is overwhelming for the world, and especially the US, to offer sympathy and help, as the country enters a delicate period of its history. Advocates of sanctions must have bile in their hearts to continue with their campaign. They are now the true enemies of peace.

CUCKOOS IN THE CLOSE

In his farewell address to the General Synod of the Church of England two days ago, the outgoing Primate, Dr Robert Runcie, implored his audience "to recognise goodness . . . in those with whom we are in frequent and fundamental disagreement". This "Anglican grace which must not be lost" has been conspicuously absent during the fulminating dispute among the clergy of Lincoln Cathedral.

The indubitably comical aspects of the affair, which arose from a touring exhibition of Lincoln's copy of Magna Carta in Australia that lost £660,000, should not obscure the underlying abuse which the General Synod voted to review this week. The system of freehold tenure of church offices is not just ripe for reform: it is rotten.

The four residentiary canons of Lincoln who are clinging to their posts are led by the sub-dean, the Rev Rex Davis. As treasurer, he bears the main responsibility for the Australian fiasco, which left the cathedral with debts of £56,000. He and two other canons have defied the bishop and the dean, both of whom are widely respected churchmen. Such disobedience would normally suffice to forfeit public sympathy.

Much criticism has been aimed at the dean, the Very Rev Brandon Jackson. Censured last year by the bishop, the Right Rev Robert Hardy, for using "intemperate and extravagant language" in rebuking the canons, Dean Jackson was snubbed this week by the general chapter, which voted down a motion calling on the canons to resign. Some non-residentiary canons apparently deplored the dean's action in allegedly sending a "confrontational" private memorandum to the canons, which was promptly leaked to the press.

Is the dean to blame? Should he have been more mealy-mouthed in his dealings with the four canons? Would that have been more gracious, in Dr Runcie's sense? Perhaps so; but the dean says that in the case of Canon Davis there was hostility from the first. Should the police have been kept out of this sordid business? Maybe; but they still do not know where the Magna Carta money went.

Should a bishop and his dean be so hemmed in by archaic statutes that they cannot remove sick or incompetent clerics from the administration of a great cathedral, even if they are found other livings? Perhaps the Church of England has been so absorbed in doctrinal and political disputations that it has omitted to make the organisational changes necessary to balance its own books.

When the new Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, is enthroned in April, he will have the chance to set out a reforming manifesto. Expectations of the new Primate are high. He could make a worthwhile start by announcing that the system of freehold tenure will be dismantled. All holders of high ecclesiastical office (not excluding archbishops) should be subject to regular appraisal. Those found wanting should be retired. The laity should always be involved. Episcopal authority should be reinforced. If the indecent squabble at Lincoln results in the abolition of freehold tenure, the Anglican grace of which Dr Runcie spoke will not be endangered.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

A just war aimed at a just peace

From Captain P. R. D. Kimm, RN (retd)

Sir, No Christian could possibly disagree with the thrust of Cardinal Hume's article (January 28) on war and peace. What I missed in it though was an acknowledgement that, all efforts at a diplomatic solution having failed, the armed forces of the coalition are themselves instruments for achieving as rapid a return as possible to a just and lasting peace.

Of course the Second Vatican Council, whose teaching the cardinal quoted, abhorred war and pleaded for its avoidance. But they also taught that it "has decidedly not been eradicated from human affairs" and that "So long as the danger of it persists and we have no competent international authority equipped with adequate force, it will not be possible to deny governments the right of legitimate self-defence, given that they have exhausted every peaceful means of settlement".

It seems to me that there now *is* a competent international authority (for which we should thank God) and that the United Nations, unanimous in its resolution, is using the coalition to provide "adequate force" to defend its legitimate interests — only after "every peaceful means of settlement" has been thoroughly exhausted.

The council also taught that "Those who are serving their country in the armed forces should regard themselves as servants of the peoples' security and liberty". So does not military service carry even greater dignity when it is performed for the recognised international authority?

I am not in any way suggesting a glorification of war — which must always be, as Cardinal Hume wrote, "a tragic failure". But I do plead for a sympathetic recognition of the rightness of the dangerous and selfless duty on which our armed forces are currently engaged.

Yours faithfully,
PETER KIMM,
69 New Brighton Road,
Emsworth, Hampshire.
January 28.

From the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

Sir, Assuming that the present conflict with Iraq will end with the liberation of Kuwait, although at what cost and difficulty it is still too early to determine, certain longer-term issues must already begin to be addressed. If the allies do not commit themselves with equal vigour and determination to the making of a just peace, the last situation could well be worse than the first.

In Iraq itself a humiliated people will need befriending and a country rebuilding in a manner which is compassionate and committed without also being patronising. On the wider scene the same unremitting attention currently being given to UN Resolution 660, demanding Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait, will need to be given to UN Resolution 242. Given God's grace, and resolute human endeavour, it still can be possible to find both security for the state of Israel and a peaceful homeland for the Palestinians, as well as peace in Cyprus and in Lebanon.

However, any lasting resolution to all these problems must be as much an Arab as a Western one. The West has all too often pursued its own way of thinking and its own self-interest, ignoring or overriding authentic peace-seeking Arab voices which are both Islamic and Christian.

We need a new beginning. The West has its part to play. It may need to offer a backcloth of diplomatic advice, military security and some economic support but the Arab world must be allowed, under God, to address and resolve its own difficulties. Only then can any lasting security and peace ensue.

Yours faithfully,
†JOHN ST EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH,
The Bishop's House, 4 Park Road,
Ipswich, Suffolk.
January 30.

From Ms Margaret Quass

Sir, I welcome Tom King's reference to the last sentence of UN Resolution 678 (report, Janaury 28); but it would surely be futile for the so-called allies to attempt "to restore peace and security in the area" on their own.

Far better to return to the Security Council, requesting that the Secretary General establish a neutral UN force to take over from the allied forces when Iraq has been defeated and remain until such time as a peace settlement has been reached.

It will be remembered that in 1956 the British, French and Israeli forces withdrew from Suez in favour of the United Nations Emergency Force which kept the peace on the Israeli-Egyptian border until 1967. That force was of necessity created by a resolution in the General Assembly, so was obliged to withdraw when requested to do so by President Nasser. Next time any such force must have the enforcement powers of the Security Council.

UN forces do not come cheaply, but the cost will help to concentrate the minds and energy of the international community, so that all the relevant issues throughout the area, including arms control and a home for the Palestinian Arabs, can be addressed.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET QUASS,
113 Broadhurst Gardens, NW6.
January 28.

Muslim issues

From Mrs Shahwar Sadeque

Sir, I write as an individual Muslim, with much sadness and a heavy heart, as war is being waged in the Gulf. I believe that the vast majority of the Muslims who came to Britain in the early 1960s have managed to reconcile any conflict that may arise for a Muslim living in a non-Muslim country and that, by and large, the host community showed much tolerance and understanding of Muslims' totally different cultural and religious needs.

February 14, 1989, saw a shattering end to all that — the *fatwah* against the author of *The Satanic Verses*; but we can just about see the end of that particular tunnel, thanks largely to the hard work of the Commission for Racial Equality, the Home Office and certain prominent individuals.

Now we are faced with what appears to be a second front of discontent. I am delighted, therefore, by the insistence of the Home Office that law-abiding British Muslims should have the right to express their views without being victimised. Every individual British Muslim is free to object to the Gulf war taking place; but no individual British Muslim has the right to speak on behalf of them all. I believe, therefore, that it is the responsibility of every silent, moderate Muslim in Britain to come forward and articulate their views with conviction.

They must show that as British Muslims they too feel deeply about the dangers being faced by the British forces fighting in the Gulf and that they sympathise with their anxious families. Only then will we have earned the true status of British Muslims, as opposed to being Indian subcontinental, Middle Eastern or Far Eastern Muslims.

Yours sincerely,
SHAHWAR SADEQUE,
c/o Kingston Polytechnic,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

From the Reverend John Root

Sir, One side-effect of the Gulf war seems to be an increase in the estimated number of Muslims in Britain. Recently there have been suggestions in *The Times* of two million (report, January 21), and 1½ million (report, January 26).

In fact even previous estimates of one million are questionable. Iqbal Wahhab's Runnymede Trust booklet "Muslims in Britain" gives a total of 939,500 for 1990, based on estimates of the size of different national groups and their descendants.

However, this figure should be reduced. Wahhab seems to treat all Malaysians as Muslims, whilst his estimate of half the African population in Britain as being Muslim is most probably an over-estimate.

A figure of less than 900,000 is more likely, within which allowance must be made for considerable variations both in religious commitment and political loyalty.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN ROOT,
St James Vicarage,
34 Stanley Avenue,
Alperton,
Middlesex.
January 26.

From Mr Peter Ryan

Sir, It seems obvious to me that the Iraqi strategy is to keep the war going until Ramadan is due with the full moon in mid-March. With pilgrims unable to visit Mecca, the Saudis will be highly embarrassed.

Iraq will then be able to call on all Muslims to unite against infidel troops, thus breaking the coalition.

This aim explains why arms and munitions are apparently being held back ready for a jihad offensive during the "holy month", seen as a defence of the "holy places".

Yours faithfully,
PETER RYAN,
As from: 44 Fellows Road,
Hampstead, NW3.

Critics' choice

From Mr Sheridan Morley

Sir, To find myself described one week in *The Spectator* by Frederic Raphael as part of a "whey-faced tribe" and the next by Bernard Levin in *The Times* (January 30) as "round and merry" suggests as usual a certain divergence of critical opinion, and as usual I am happy (having checked the mirror) to side with Levin.

Except that he is wrong about the rubbish quotient. Nobody who has had to sit through Julian Clary at the Aldwych this week could deny the suffering of drama critics, but we do in fact have it a great deal easier than most of our critical colleagues.

The artistic rubbish occasionally stacked along Shaftesbury Avenue or even the South Bank comes in vastly lower piles than that you will find along Wardour Street or the corridors of any television centre, lower I would suggest than in your friendly neighbourhood bookshop.

And Levin's solution, a six-month maximum stint for drama critics, is exactly what is now being tried by several magazines, either involuntarily as they close or voluntarily in the name of novelty.

As a result, halfway adequate Lears and Hamlets are described as "the finest of our time" by reviewers who have seen a total of two or three others.

Even Levin was only at his best as a theatre critic once he had been going to it for a decade or so: experience does count for something, if only when deciding whether the rubbish is vintage or not.

Yours faithfully,
SHERIDAN MORLEY
(Drama critic),
International Herald Tribune,
63 Long Acre, WC2.
January 30.

From Mr Iain Johnstone

Sir, Bernard Levin has circulated to a wider audience Frederic Raphael's assertion in *The Spectator* that I included the 1990 comedy, *The War of the Roses*, in my "decade of excellence."

I didn't.

Yours faithfully,
IAIN JOHNSTONE (Film critic),
The Sunday Times,
1 Pennington Street, E1.

A market price for lawyers' toil

From Mr C. G. J. Leeming

Sir, Although a solicitor, I am unfortunately unable to comply with your advice (leading article, January 29) to get out of my Rolls-Royce and onto my bike. Here I am at work, at a desk submerged in paper, having arrived on the Underground after a short journey in my elderly Renault.

My experience of law in the City is that it is a competitive business, involving long hours and hard work. I do not bemoan my lot (although current speculation about my earnings is grossly inaccurate) but I do feel that your comments concerning solicitors miss the point.

The purpose of a profession is to provide a service for the community. The people providing that service have to be paid to live. If they are not paid, then the service will disappear. At present there is a real risk that this will happen to a greater or lesser extent.

That risk does not arise from the Courts and Legal Services Act promoted by the Lord Chancellor (which, incidentally, solicitors did not petulantly oppose but largely supported) but from two current economic facts of life.

First, the recession has severely curtailed certain categories of business, for example conveyancing. Second, the legal aid system appears to be deliberately administered to prevent any worthwhile return. While City firms may be relatively unaffected by these factors, many firms throughout the country do now face considerable difficulties.

There is no sensible re-training programme to correct this. With the possible exception of insolvency services there is no available substitute market. Ultimately the consumer will suffer, particularly in the legal aid field, because there is no incentive for solicitors to continue to provide unremunerative services. Many of them go out of business before this fact is understood, but I am afraid that is the law of the market place.

Yours sincerely,
CHARLES LEEMING
(Senior partner),
Wilde Sapte (solicitors),
Queensbridge House,
60 Upper Thames Street, EC4.
January 29.

From Mr Sproule Bolton

Sir, It has always been possible to brief competent barristers to do legal aid work, whether civil or criminal.

It remains impossible to secure that the barrister briefed to defend in a most serious criminal case will attend on the day to conduct the case, even though a fixed date has been given by the court with the agreement of the barrister and the barrister's clerk.

The Bar Council has recently stated, in a letter to my firm, that "so long as the present listing system remains in operation it is unfortunately quite impracticable to impose on counsel an unqualified obligation to attend a hearing for which a fixed date has been obtained".

If Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC, as chairman of the Bar, claims the moral high ground of mandatory legal aid ("Justice with a price tag", Law, January 29) he should get something done about that situation and should ask the advisory committee set up under the Courts and Legal Services Act, chaired by Lord Griffiths, to assist him.

Yours sincerely,
SPROULE BOLTON,
Pengelly & Rylands (solicitors),
39-41 High Street,
Tenterden, Kent.
January 30.

From Mr Stephen Mayson

Sir, You are right: there is still plenty of work for solicitors to do. On the other hand, there is certainly not enough work to keep all of them busy, let alone profitable. Precious few of them have yet completely adapted themselves, their marketing or their pricing to remain attractive to a marketplace which has continued to change the way it buys legal services.

It is time for a realignment. Only if partners work more closely with each other and with the hands that feed them will law firms achieve the right size and provide services that their clients want to go on buying. If lawyers heed your advice, perhaps a tandem pedalled towards clients will keep them in business longer.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN MAYSON
(Managing partner),
Hildebrandt, Inc
(Business consultants to lawyers),
Chancery House,
Chancery Lane, WC2.
January 29.

From Miss Sally E. Harvey

Sir, Anthony Scrivener, QC: "A barrister cannot say, 'I do not do legal aid work'". True, he or she cannot *say* he/she does not do it; he/she simply *does* not do it if he/she so chooses.

Anthony Scrivener, QC: "Any solicitor in Britain can instruct any barrister to undertake the advocacy for a client". True, *provided he can pay a proper fee* (and many experienced barristers do *not* consider legal aid provides a proper fee).

And then there is always workload, other appointments and specialisation to provide convenient means of avoiding the magic words, "I do not do legal aid work".

Yours faithfully,
SALLY E. HARVEY,
David Jones & Harvey (solicitors),
47 Broad Street,
Newtown, Powys.
January 29.

Shortage of women

From Mr J. E. Dussek

Sir, I have been a consultant surgeon for over ten years and have sat on a large number of appointment committees for senior house officers (the most junior grade of career appointments), registrars, senior registrars and consultants.

Despite the fact that in some medical schools nearly 50 per cent of students are female it is still unusual for there to be a female applicant for any surgical career post. Inevitably the interviewing panel is almost entirely male because, as you point out (report, January 23), only one in 100 surgeons is a woman.

In my experience, if ever there is any bias at an interview it will be in favour of the female candidate, all other issues being equal. I have never come across a negative female bias, there just are few female applicants.

There has been a similar fuss over the lack of women in politics. Despite the fact that in my village the male-female ratio is almost equal, there are no women on the parish council, not because none have been elected but because none have applied. The council meets once a month for about two hours, which is hardly onerous or demanding, yet women appear not to be interested.

Opportunities in medicine and politics are already equal. We do not need further legislation or inducements to encourage women to do something they already can do, but do not want to.

Yours faithfully,
J. DUSSEK
(Consultant thoracic surgeon),
Tebolds, The Street, Plaxtol,
Sevenoaks, Kent.

Waspish trends

From Professor James J. Carberry

Sir, As an American Warc (White Anglo Roman Catholic) I particularly appreciate Charles Bremner's reflections on the seeming restoration of Wasp traditions ("Suddenly the buzz-word is Wasp", January 29). However I'm not as sanguine as is Mr Bremner. An ominous trend which may well frustrate a Wasp restoration in the USA is manifest in its public education system (primary, secondary and university levels). I refer to the anti-Western civilisation cult, quickly and not so silently infecting American education.

Indeed a Balkanisation of the US is upon us. Whilst its advocates cannot cite a Zulu Zola or an Alaskan Aristotle, American students are being rendered mindless by cultural deconstructionism.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES J. CARBERRY,
University of Cambridge,
Department of Chemical Engineering,
Pembroke Street, Cambridge.

Foreign names

From Mr G. H. Turner

Sir, How pleasant to read (On This Day, January 23) the splendid John Bull sentiments of your writer of 51 years ago. To give a foreign sound to Paris, Berlin, Lyons in conversation "would today be mere coxcombry". To "speak . . . of 'Don Hoo-ahn' and 'a Key-hotic action'" is "illiterate pretentiousness".

But, 50 years on, would-be sophisticates do just that. Why can't I say "Lyons" as in "pride of" without sounding a complete wally? And why must it be Mayorca now?

When I speak French I pronounce French names as a Frenchman would (or at least I try to). When I'm speaking English about places in France I use the English pronunciation. What's wrong with that?

Yours faithfully,
G. H. TURNER,
44 Round Ward Lane,
Harpenden,
Hertfordshire.
January 23.

Under their noses

From Mrs Barbara Shaw

Sir, I have just received a letter from the Inland Revenue requesting my National Insurance number for computer records. At the top of the page they give a reference to quote in my reply. It is my National Insurance number.

Yours faithfully,
BARBARA SHAW,
14 Fair Leas,
Chesham,
Buckinghamshire.
January 28.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

SOCIAL NEWS

Birthdays

TODAY: The Right Rev Lord Blanch, 73; the Earl of Clarendon, 58; Dr Macdonald Critchley, neurologist, 91; Mr Andrew Davis, conductor, 47; Mr Les Dawson, comedian, 58; the Rev Dr Victor de Waal, former Dean of Canterbury, 62; Sir Robert Douglas, founder Douglas Group of Companies, 92; Mr Abba Eban, Israeli politician, 76; Sir Norman Fowler, MP, 53; Mr Stan Getz, jazz musician, 64; M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, former President of France, 65; Mr Hughie Green, broadcaster, 71; Mr H.V. Hughes, former principal, Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, 65; Mr David Jason, actor, 51; Mr David Jones, chief executive, Next, 48; Mr Geoffrey Kent, former chairman, Imperial Group, 69; Dame Alix Meynell, former civil servant, 88; Lord Reigate, 86; Miss Elaine Stritch, actress, 64.

TOMORROW: Sir Anthony Alment, obstetrician and gynaecologist, 69; Miss Gillian Ayres, painter, 61; Mr Val Doonican, singer, 62; Viscount Dunluce, 56; Air Chief Marshal Sir John Gingell, 66; the Earl of Hardwicke, 20; Sir Edgar Keatinge, former MP and company director, 86; Mr James A. Michener, author, 84; Miss Detta O'Cathian, managing-director, Barbican Centre, 53; Miss Elaine Padmore, opera singer and director, 44; Brigadier the Hon Dame Mary Pihl, former director, WRAC, 75; Lord Sherfield, 87; Mr Glen Tetley, choreographer, 65; Mr Frankie Vaughan, singer, 63.

Royal engagements

TODAY: The Princess Royal, Patron of the Scottish Rugby Union, will attend the Scotland v Wales international match at Murrayfield at 12.25.

TOMORROW: The Duke of Edinburgh, as Air Commodore-in-Chief, will attend a service of thanksgiving at St Clement Danes at 10.55 to mark the 50th anniversary of the Air Training Corps.

Bishop Cuthbert Bardsley

A service of thanksgiving will be held for the life and ministry of Bishop Cuthbert Bardsley at 2.15 pm, on Tuesday, February 12, in Coventry Cathedral. All will be welcome to attend. Places will be reserved for those with tickets. These can be obtained from the Archdeacon of Coventry, The Venerable Ian Russell, Church House, Palmerston Road, Coventry, CV5 6FJ. Tel: 0203-674328.

Trevor Kempson

A memorial service for Trevor Kempson will be held on February 13 at St Bride's, Fleet Street, at noon.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Peter Atkinson, Vicar, Newington, Stadhampton and Warborough, in the Dorchester team, diocese Oxford: to be Vicar, Cropredy w. Great Bourton and Wardington, same diocese.

The Rev Judith Alford, Parish Deacon, St John, Deptford, diocese Southwark: to be Chaplain's Assistant, King's College Hospital and Dulwich Hospital, Camberwell, same diocese.

The Rev Peter Anderton, Priest-in-charge, Thornthwaite w. Thruscross and Darley, diocese Ripon: to be Vicar, St James', Owton Manor, diocese Durham.

The Rev Peter Baker, Assistant Curate, St Alban the Martyr, Holborn, diocese London: to be Vicar, Golders Green, same diocese.

The Rev Robert J Bawtree, Rector, Arborfield w. Barkham, diocese Oxford: to be Vicar, Hildenborough, diocese Rochester.

The Rev David C Branford, Curate, Poulton-le-Fylde, diocese Blackburn: to be Curate, St Bartholomew's, Armley, diocese Ripon.

The Rev Arthur R Bould, Rector, Cheadle, and Rural Dean of Stoke, diocese Lichfield: to be Assistant to the Bishop of Wolverhampton, same diocese.

University news

Oxford

St Peter's College

Sir Kenneth Bloomfield has been elected to an Honorary Fellowship.

Elections to Instrumental Awards: Noah Beckwith, Usher Award (flute and recorder); Stefan Reid (piano).

London

Royal Postgraduate Medical School

Professor Sir Colin Dollery, Professor of Medicine, has been appointed Dean from October 1991.

Anniversaries

Today

BIRTHS: Giovanni Palestrina, composer, Rome, 1594; Nell Gwyn, actress, mistress of Charles II, London, 1650; Havelock Ellis, psychologist and writer, London, 1859; Fritz Kreisler, violinist, Vienna, 1875; James Joyce, novelist, Dublin, 1882; James Stephens, poet and novelist, Dublin, 1882.

DEATHS: Francis Hayman, painter, London, 1776; John L Sullivan, prize ring heavyweight champion, Abington, Massachusetts, 1918; Bertrand Russell, 3rd Earl Russell, mathematician and philosopher, Plas Penrhyn, Gwynedd, 1970; Sir William Stephenson (*A Man called Intrepid*), intelligence agent, 1989.

The British Embassy in Dublin was besieged and burnt down, 1972.

Tomorrow

BIRTHS: Felix Mendelssohn, composer, Hamburg, 1809; Elizabeth Blackwell, physician, co-founder of the London School of Medicine for Women, Bristol, 1821; Robert Cecil, 3rd Marquess of Salisbury, prime minister 1885-86, 1886-92, 1895-1902, Hatfield House, Herts, 1830; Gertrude Stein, novelist and critic, Alleghany, Pennsylvania, 1874; Alvar Aalto, architect and designer, Kuortane, Finland, 1898; Luigi Dallapiccola, composer, Pisono, Austria, 1904.

DEATHS: Germain Pilon, sculptor, Paris, 1590; Richard (Beau) Nash, master of ceremonies at Bath, 1761; George Crabbe, poet, Trowbridge, Wilts, 1832; Sir Morell Mackenzie, physician, London, 1892; Woodrow Wilson, 28th president of the USA 1913-21, Nobel peace laureate 1920, Washington, 1924; Oliver Heaviside, physicist, London, 1925; Boris Karloff, actor, Midhurst, W Sussex, 1969; John Cassavetes, film director and actor, 1989.

Luncheon

Lord Mayor of Westminster

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster were hosts at a luncheon held yesterday at City Hall in honour of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of London. Among the guests were:

Sir John and Lady Dellow, Dame Sheelagh Roberts, Dame Shirley Porter, Mr Alderman and Sheriff and Mrs Christopher Walford, the Very Rev Michael and Mrs Mayne, Rear-Admiral Anthony Cooke, Rear-Admiral and Mrs Kenneth Snow and Mr Geoffrey Rowley.

Service dinners

HAC Mess Club

The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs were the guests of the Honourable Artillery Company Mess Club at a dinner held last night at Armoury House. Captain R.B. Tiley, president, was in the chair. Captain D.F. Cornell, the Lord Mayor, Major P.C.F. Pettit and Mr D.E. Coleridge also spoke.

RAF North Luffenham

Officers of RAF North Luffenham Officers' Mess held a ladies' guest night dinner last night in the Mess to mark the 50th anniversary of RAF North Luffenham. Wing Commander H.S. Grant presided and Group Captain R.McV. Browne, Station Commander, and Air Marshal Sir Michael Graydon, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief RAF Support Command, also spoke.

8th Queen's Fusiliers

The Master of the Cordwainers' Company was the guest of honour at a reception and dinner given by C (City of London) Company of the 8th Queen's Fusiliers last night at Fusilier House, Balham. Warrant Officer C. Hudson presided at the reception and Major S. Balwin at the dinner. Other guests included:

Brigadier P Bowser, Lieutenant-Colonel P McLelland, Lieutenant-Colonel G Pettifar and the Clerk of the Cordwainers' Company.

Dinner

Farriers' Company

Mr Timothy P. Neligan, Master of the Farriers' Company, assisted by Mr J.G. Barsham, Upper Warden, and Mr R.J.D. Thompson, Renter Warden, presided at a dinner held last night at Innholders' Hall. Dr J.C. Garnham, Mr Raymond Brooks-Ward and Mr Peter Scott Dunn also spoke. Baroness Trumpington, Mr M.R.C. Crawshay and Miss A. Philpott were among the other guests.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.D. Angela and Miss V.J. Anderson

The forthcoming marriage is announced between Mark, only son of Group Captain and Mrs David Angela, of Redford, West Sussex, and Victoria, only daughter of the late Neil Anderson and of Mrs Rosalie Fardon, of Flax Bourton, Bristol.

Mr G.B. Caygill and Miss K.D. Whitticombe

The engagement is announced between Graham (Bazil), younger son of the late Mr J.W.F. Caygill and of Mrs E.M. Caygill, of Rugby, Warwickshire, and Karen, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.G. Whitticombe, of Grappenhall, Cheshire.

Mr E.A. Farquharson and Miss C.S. Hobhouse

The engagement is announced between Edward Alexander, youngest son of Mr and Mrs R.A. Farquharson, of Tollard Royal, and Charlotte Susannah, daughter of Sir John and Lady Hobhouse, of Chelsea, London.

Mr S.J.C. Gardner and Miss W. Richardson Hardon

The engagement is announced between Stephen, only son of Mr and Mrs J.H.G. Gardner, of Beckenham, Kent, and Wendy, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs F. Richardson Hardon, of Ainsdale, Merseyside.

Mr J.W.M. Tahany and Miss J.C. Elliott

The engagement is announced between Justin, second son of Mr Peter Tahany, of Leicester, and Mrs Margaret Tahany, of London, and Judith, daughter of Mrs Margaret Elliott, of Sheffield, Yorkshire, and the late Professor Douglas Elliott.

Mr B.P. Verlaan and Miss E.J. Kingham

The engagement is announced between Brian, elder son of Mr and Mrs F. Verlaan, of Tadley, Hampshire, and Jane, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Kingham, of Nailsea, Avon.

Mr S.N.T. Waring and Miss C.M.R. Bevan

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Waring, of Charlbury, Oxford, and Claire, daughter of Dr and Mrs Leslie Bevan, of Ingatestone, Essex.

Marriage

Commander G.M.B. Selous and Mrs R.W. Hutton

The marriage took place in London, yesterday, February 1, between Gerald Selous and Rhodanthe Hutton.

Appointment

Professor Martin Ricketts to be Economic Director at the National Economic Development Office.

OBITUARIES

DOROTHY SMITH

Dorothy Madge Smith, CBE, Matron of the Middlesex Hospital, 1929-1946, and of Guy's Hospital, 1946-53, died on January 5, aged 95. She was born on August 14, 1895.

DURING her successive periods in charge of the nursing staff at two of London's great teaching hospitals Dorothy Smith was at the top of her profession for 24 years. It was an era which saw radical changes in the content and the style of nursing. When she arrived at Guy's as a young nurse in 1916 the profession was still replete with the ideals of duty inspired by such a figure as the recently martyred Edith Cavell and by the heroic deeds of Florence Nightingale. By the time she retired in 1953 she had seen such innovations as the introduction of the National Health Service and its accompanying "new deal" for nurses in terms of their own welfare and time allowed off from duty. The years 1916-1953 also saw rapid advances in medical knowledge which turned the nurse from a sympathetic cleaner and bandager of wounds into a sophisticated medical support to ever harder-pressed hospital doctors, skilled in the administration of drugs and in the operation of various monitoring equipment.

In spite of these changes Dorothy Smith was, to the core, of the school of duty. This had much to do with the fact that she was born into a large family – she was the fifth of ten children – at Swaffham, Norfolk. Her father and his forebears had, for generations, farmed the hard-favoured soil of the Norfolk breckland, and had developed the grittiness of outlook which comes from the performance of intractable tasks. Dorothy Smith went to Swaffham Grammar School where she took her school certificate and then, joined the nursing staff of Guy's at the age of 21, then the earliest opportunity to begin a nursing career. By 1927 she was already assistant matron, but in that year she was appointed lady superintendent and matron at the Middlesex Hospital, where she was to spend the best part of the next 20 years.

Although possessed of an inexhaustible sense of duty, she did not wait for the far distant inception of the National Health Service to bring about some modest reforms herself. The first of these, quite properly, touched the regimen of patients, some aspects of which, she felt, were spartan to a degree which militated against speedy recovery. Breakfast, in those far-off days, was served at the extraordinary hour of 5am. In spite of protests from the sisters that they would not be able to prepare the wards for the consultants' rounds at 9.30, she had this put back to 7am, a much more humane hour. Next she turned her attention to the conditions under which the nursing sisters themselves worked, adding a free weekend each month to the miserly day off per week which was their ration of free time at that point. During the war when the Middlesex was hit by bombs, she was on duty day and night, and also took on the responsibilities of a sector matron, keeping an eye on a number of hospitals up to 50 miles from London. She was moreover on the nursing advisory boards for the RAF and the Prison Service.

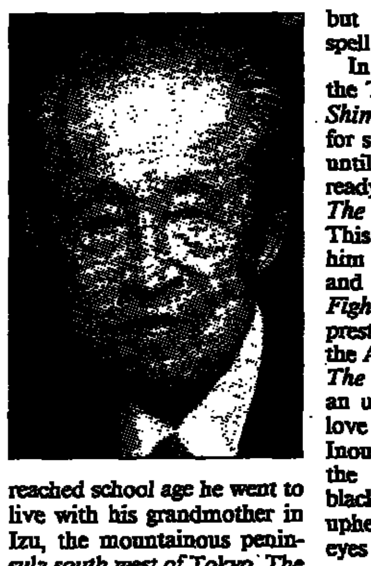
From 1944 to 1955 she was in addition chairman of the General Nursing Council. She took such extra duties seriously – of the 134 council meetings in those 11 years she missed only one, and on that occasion she was lecturing in the United States.

In 1946 Guy's asked her to return there as matron and she found herself in charge of 100 staff in a hospital which had been badly damaged in the war. In those days the whole hospital adminstration was the work of the matron and superintendent (then Mr W. D. Doherty, himself a Guy's surgeon). The superb co-operation between them soon led to improvements in conditions at Guy's. Among the most important from the nursing point of view was the introduction of block release training which relieved nurses from studying for promotion in off-duty hours by taking them away from the wards for periods of a week or two. When the National Health Service arrived with its revolutionary changes, it was an event for which the General Nursing Council with Miss Smith at the helm was well prepared.

Miss Smith had been appointed OBE in 1943 and was advanced to CBE in 1953, the year in which she retired. During the 35 years of her retirement her devotion to the large Swaffham family and to her many friends remained undiminished.

YASUSHI INOUE

Yasushi Inoue, Japanese novelist, died in Tokyo on January 29 aged 83. He was born on May 6, 1907.



ON SEVERAL occasions a Nobel candidate, Yasushi Inoue was one of Japan's best-known novelists who was at last beginning to be appreciated in the English-speaking world through translations of his work. In Japan his historical novels stimulated an awareness of his country's cultural debt to China among people at all levels. History was one of the backgrounds of his work. Another source of his stories is newsworthy incidents, such as accidents or unexplained deaths, which had happened in his lifetime. These drew strongly on the instincts developed during his years as a newspaper reporter. But perhaps his most evocative works are rooted in the sense of loneliness experienced by the artistic temperament. In such works is he at his most characteristic.

Yasushi Inoue was born at Asahikawa on the island of Hokkaido the son of an army surgeon. His childhood, as related in his autobiography, was a lonely one. The army kept his father on the move and when Yasushi Inoue reached school age he went to live with his grandmother in Izu, the mountainous peninsula south west of Tokyo. The experience of being separated from his immediate family increased his natural proclivity towards introspection. He had intended to become a doctor like his father but did not get into medical school. He dabbled in courses at various universities before graduating in philosophy and aesthetics from Kyoto in 1936. He then joined the staff of the newspaper *Mainichi Shimbun* in Osaka and remained a reporter until 1951. He was briefly in the army in 1937-8, but this period involved a spell of service in China.

In 1948 he was assigned to the Tokyo office of *Mainichi Shimbun*. He had been writing for some years but it was not until 1949 when he was already 42 that his first novel, *The Hunting Gun*, appeared. This immediately brought him to prominence in Japan and its successor, *The Bull Fight*, won him Japan's most prestigious literary honour, the Akutagawa prize, in 1950. *The Hunting Gun*, a story of an urban upper middle class love affair, was rich with Inoue's observation of life in the post-war years with its black marketeering and social upheaval. Seen through the eyes of its poet-narrator, who comes across the lonely figure of a hunter at the foot of Mt Amagi, it was also replete with a sense of inviolate solitariness.

The critical acclaim accorded *The Hunting Gun* launched Inoue on to a writing career that was to prove prolific. *The Black Tide* (1950) was an exploration in fictional terms of the death in 1949 of the president of Japan's national railways corporation, and examined its peronal economic and social implications. But it was history which provided Inoue with some of his most popular themes. *The Roof Tiles of Tempyo* (1957) depicted the struggles of some of the first Japanese monks to bring Buddhist texts and teaching from China, while *Tunhuang* (1959) described a power struggle in the western provinces of China along the ancient silk road in the eleventh century.

In 1964 Inoue went to America to research on the lives of Japanese immigrants and at the time of his death had written three of a projected six volumes on the subject. This he always regarded as his life's main work.

Many of Inoue's works were best-sellers in Japan. His fictionalised life of Confucius, *Koshi*, which is due to be published later this year by Peter Owen (publisher of translations of *The Hunting Gun* and a collection of three stories, *The Counterfeiter*, in this country in 1989), sold over 250,000 in its original Japanese edition. Inoue was chairman of the Japan-China cultural exchange association and he and his wife were invited to China to advise on a Sino-Japanese film of his book *The Roof Tiles of Tempyo*.

MARIO VALENTINO

Mario Valentino, Italian fashion designer, died in Naples on January 31 aged 63. He was born in 1927.

THOUGH a Neapolitan born and bred, Mario Valentino made his first impact not on the fashion scene in Italy but in New York where, in 1954, he designed a coral sandal for I. Miller, the American shoemaker. A flat, simple design, with a flower binding two strings, it gave a foretaste of the finely-crafted, high quality shoes for which he was to become known.

Valentino's father, Vincenzo, had himself been making shoes in Naples since 1908, and after studying politics and economics his son followed in his footsteps. After his New York success he returned to Italy and set up as a high class shoemaker in Rome in the 1960s. Like his father's products these were handmade and among his customers were Sophia Loren and Ava Gardner.

In 1965 he went back to Naples and began a programme of expansion and diversification. In the late 1960s the company launched a women's wear line designed by Karl Lagerfeld, which has continued, using designer names such as Armani and Versace. From 1973 the basic craft of shoemaking was extended to cover other forms of leatherwear, handbags, luggage and belts, and Mario Valentino boutiques were opened in a number of cities throughout the world, including New York, Zurich and Paris.

The Naples earthquake of 1984 was a severe setback to Valentino, as to other Neapolitan businessmen, damaging as it did, his apparel factory in nearby Pozzuoli. All production was shifted to the company's headquarters on Via Fontenelle; the reconstruction of the Pozzuoli factory continuing meanwhile.

As time went on Valentino delegated more and more responsibility to his children Enzo, Gianni and Fortuna. In the third generation the Valentino gospel remains essentially that of *nonno* Vincenzo — a concentration on finely crafted leather goods.

JOHN NICHOLLS

John Nicholls, former yachting correspondent of The Times, *died of cancer on January 31 aged 59. He was born on June 17, 1931.*

JOHN Nicholls reported in *The Times* from 1970 to 1986, covering a period of remarkable change within the sport, as commercialism and sponsorship helped talented sailors take on and eventually beat the wealthy yacht owners who dominated yacht racing before and after the two world wars. He witnessed the enormous growth in ocean racing from events like the Singlehanded Transatlantic race and solo circumnavigations to the Whitbread and BOC round the world races.

It was dinghy racing however, that remained his first love. Brought up in Fulham, Nicholls began racing Merlin Rocket dinghies on the Thames at Putney and Kingston during the early 1950s while training as a design draughtsman. In 1958, he teamed up as crew to Barrie Perry to sail the famous 12ft National dinghy Yakopu. This partnership gained many victories at national and regional events during the following three seasons, their greatest success being the national championship in 1959.

In 1961, Nicholls joined *The Sunday Times* when the paper launched the Signet build-it-yourself dinghy class, designed by Ian Proctor. His task was to write and illustrate the building instructions and to promote the class around the country, and to his credit more than 1,000 were sold. In 1966, Nicholls joined the British magazine *Motor Boat and Yachting*, eventually becoming assistant editor before joining *The Times*. During his time with the paper the spotlight shifted to offshore events like the Admiral's and Sardinia Cup events as well as the Sydney-Hobart and Bermuda race classics, but dinghy racing remained his favourite recreation, either competing or watching. Apart from covering the major dinghy events each season, Nicholls owned a succession of National 12 dinghies throughout the 1960s and 1970s and won many open meetings and regional championships.

In 1987 he became yachting correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph* for a year before taking up the post of press officer during last winter's Whitbread Round the World race.

He is survived by his second wife, Jennifer.

COLONEL LYON CORBETT WINDER

J. P. W. writes:

YOUR otherwise comprehensive tribute to Colonel Lyon Corbett Winder (January 5) fails to record that at Christmas 1942, in Libya, he took over from Lieutenant-Colonel Christopher Consett in command of 1 KRRC. He led that battalion throughout the 8th Army actions from Medenine, in the Mareth Line, and on into Tunisia.

Then, under his command, the 1st Battalion fought in 1st Armoured Division, transferred to the 1st Army, in the mountainous south western approaches to Tunis, notably at Argoub el Megas, until the final surrender of the Axis forces. He handed over command in late June 1943.

Church services tomorrow

Eighth Sunday before Easter

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.30 M, Rt Rev J D G Kirkham: 9.30 M (Quire): 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), I sat down under his shadow (Bairstow). The Dean: 3.15 E, Responses (Leighton), Chichester Service (Walton), Heare us Lord (Bennett): 6.30 ES for Candlemas.

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC: 10 S Euch, Vaughan Williams in G minor, Ave verum (Elgar). Canon R Metcalfe: 11.30 M, Responses (Rose), Stanford in B flat: 4 E, Jackson in G, Hodie beata virgo (Byrd). Very Rev J Southgate.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.30 M, Responses (Byrd), Te Deum (Leighton), Britten in E flat. Ven G Cassidy: 11.30 HC, Missa Brevis (Leighton), I will tell you what wisdom is (Moore): 3.15 E, Stanford in B flat, An Evening Hymn (Leighton). Rev S Wookey.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC: 10 M, Responses (Gibbons/Barnard), Jubilate & Te Deum (Walton), When to the temple Mary went (Eccard). Rev J L Houlden: 11.15 Abbey Euch, Mass (Stravinsky). Canon P Bates: 3 E, Stanford in G, Lift up your heads (Handel). Canon A Harvey: 5.45 Organ Recital, Stewart Smith: 6.30 ES, The Dean.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 HC: 11 Euch, Mass (Stravinsky), God is light (Bramma), Lead me Lord (Wesley). Canon B Wollaston: 3 E, Walmisley in D minor, Vox dicentis (Naylor). Canon P Price.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 10.30 SM, Asperges me (Plainsong), Messe solennelle (Langlais), Iustus ut palma florebit (Mawby), Flourish (Grier). 12, 5.30, 7: 2.30 Organ Recital, Iain Simcock: 3.30 V & B, Magnificat primi toni (Palestrina), Sicut cervus (Palestrina), Christus 1st movement (Pott).

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10 (Children's), 6 LM: 11.30 HM, Canon J P Pannett.

GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE DIVINE WISDOM, Moscow Rd, W2: 9.30 M: 11 Divine Liturgy.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, Ennismore Gdns, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy.

SERBIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF ST SAVVA, Lancaster Rd, W1: 10.30 Divine Liturgy.

THE CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC: 11.15 S Euch, Sumsion in F. Canon D C Gray.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 S Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells). Rev J Robson.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 HC, Let Thy hand be strengthened (Blow), Sumsion in F, Prevent us O Lord (Byrd). The Chaplain, The Life Guards.

GRAY'S INN CHAPEL: 8.30 HC: 11.15 Divine Service. Canon E James.

LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL: 11.30 MP, Judge Eternal (Marchant). Rev F V A Boyse.

TOWER OF LONDON, EC3: 9.15 HC: 11 M, Responses (Byrd), Short Service (Gibbons), Senex Puerum Portabat (Byrd). Fr R Gould.

TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street, EC4: 8.30 HC: 11.15 MP, Teach me O Lord (Attwood), Responses (Reading), Dyson in F, Noble in B minor, Splendente te (Mozart). Very Rev E Evans.

ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) WC2: 9, 12.15 HC: 11 MP, I was glad (Parry), National Anthem, "How Great Thou Art". Ven B N Halfpenny.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC: 11 Euch, Jackson in G, Christe adoramus te (Monteverdi): 3.30 E, Teach me O Lord (Attwood), Stanford in B flat, O where shall wisdom be found (Boyce).

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: 11 S Euch. Canon S Van Culin.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 8.15 LM: 11 HM, Orgelsolomesse (Mozart), Welcome sweet and sacred Feast (Finzi). The Vicar: 6 E & B, The Magdalen Service (Leighton), When to the Temple Mary went (Eccard). Rev P McGreary.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 11 Rev S Wookey: 6.30 Preb R Bewes.

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, Old Church Street, SW3: 8 HC: 10 Children's Service: 11 Parish Communion, Rev P Dewey: 6 E, Preb C E L Thomson.

CHRIST CHURCH, CHELSEA, SW3: 8 HC: 11 S Euch, Rev N Vigers.

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street: 8.15 HC: 11 S Euch, Mass for four voices (Monteverdi), Senex puerum portabat (Byrd). Rev A W Marks.

HOLY TRINITY, Brompton Road, SW7: 10.30 Family Service & HC, Rev N G P Gumbel: 6.30 Informal Service, Rev J A K Millar.

HOLY TRINITY, Prince Consort Road, SW7: 8.30 HC; 11 HC, Rev Dr M Israel.

HOLY TRINITY, Sloane Street, SW1: 8.45 HC: 11 S Euch, (Byrd). Rev K L Yates.

ST ALBAN'S, Brooke St, EC1: 9.30 Procession & SM: 11 Procession & HM, Credomesse (Mozart). Rev C Williams: 5.30 LM.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 M & Euch, A Joyful Thanksgiving and Installation of Guildsmen, Thou O God art praised in Zion (Boyle). Canon J Oates: 6.30 E, Responses (Clucas), Second Service (Gibbons), My soul there is a country (Parry). Rev W Boulton.

ST CUTHBERT'S, Philbeach Gardens SW5: 10 HC: 11 S Euch, Darke in F, Ave verum (Mozart), Rev J Vine.

ST GEORGE'S, Bloomsbury, WC1: 10 Parish Communion: 6.30 E.

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC: 11 S Euch, Mozart in C, The Rector.

ST GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS, St Giles High St, WC2: 8, 12, 7.15 HC: 11 MP, Rev P Faunch: 6.30 EP, Rev G C Taylor.

ST JAMES'S, Garlickhythe, EC4: 10.30 S Euch, The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Muswell Hill, N10: 8 HC: 11 MP, Preb M Banier: 6.30 EP.

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly, W1: 8.30 HC: 11 S Euch: 5.45 EP.

ST JOHN'S, Hyde Park Crescent, W2: 8 HC: 10 Parish Euch & Children's Church, Canon T Birchard: 6.30 Evening Worship, Canon T Birchard.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, Holland Rd, W14: 11 LM: 11 SM, Fr G Bright: 6 V & B.

ST JOHN THE DIVINE, Vassall Rd, SW9: 8 LM: 10 HM: 6.30 E, Collegium Regale (Howells), Responses (Rose), Evening Hymn (Gardiner).

ST JOHN'S WOOD CHURCH, NW8: 8 HC: 9.30 Parish Communion: 11 S Euch, Missa Festiva (Peeters), Ave Maria (Parsons). The Vicar.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC: 10.30 S Euch, Leighton in D, O quam gloriosum (Vittoria). Rev S Watson: 6.30 E, O nata lux (Tallis). Rev S Acland.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC: 10 Family Communion: 11 S Euch, Jackson in G, Tantum ergo (Duruflé). Rev K White.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Vobis datum est nosse, Missa Euge bone (Tye), When to the temple Mary went (Eccard), Senex puerum portabat (Byrd). Rev C Richardson.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8, 12.30, 7.30 HC: 9.45 Euch, Locus iste (Bruckner), O nata lux (Tallis). The Vicar: 11.30 Visitors to London Service, Rev J Pridmore: 2.45 Chinese Service, Rev G Lee: 5 E, Responses (Piccolo), Noble in A minor, Ex ore innocentium (Ireland): 6.30 ES, World of Work Service. Rev M Henwood.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45, 7 LM: 11 HM, Missa L'hora passa (Viadana). Fr N Kavanagh: 6.15 E & B.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC: 11 Euch, Nelson Mass (Haydn), Ave Maria (Mendelssohn). Rev R McLaren: 6.30 Ministry of Healing, Rev A Walker.

ST MARY-LE-STRAND (WRNS Church), Strand WC2: 11 Sung Communion, Rev O Clarke.

ST MATTHEW'S, Great Peter St, SW1: 8 HC: 10 S Euch, Mass (Shaw), Rev I Pearson: 6.30 LM.

ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 11 Euch, O nata lux (Tallis), Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Ave verum corpus (Elgar).

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC: 11 S Euch, Missa Purificationis (Fux), O Lord rebuke me not (Byrd), Geistliches Lied (Brahms). Rev C Courtauld.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC: 10 Family Mass: 11 SM, Missa Vidi Speciosam (Victoria), Ave Maria (Bruckner). Fr D Tilyer.

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner Street, SW3: 8 HC: 11 MP, Britten in E flat, O Lord make thy servant Elizabeth (Byrd). Rev G James: 6.30 E, Responses (Smith), Short Service (Gibbons), Ecce quomodo moritur justus (Handl). Rev G James.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM: 11 SM, Missa Sancta Guistini (Cherici), Unter deinem Schirmen (Bach). Fr C Colven: 6 E & B. Fr C Colven.

ST VEDAST, Foster Lane, EC2: 11 SM. The Rector.

THE ANNUNCIATION, Bryanston Street, W1: 11 SM, Missa Brevis in B flat (Mozart), Misericordias Domini (Mozart): 6 LM & B.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Prof P Filipi: 6.30 Rev J H McIndoe.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 Rev H G Ross: 12.20 HC.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Presentation of Christ in the temple (Eccard), O Domine Jesu Christe (Gabrieli).

CHURCH OF OUR LADY, Lisson Grove, St John's Wood: 10.45.

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM: 11 HM, Missa Brevis (Badings), Senex puerum portabat (Byrd), Ave verum corpus (Peeters).

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa brevis in B flat (Mozart), In ecclesiis (Gabrieli), 12.30, 4.30, 7: 3.30 V & B, O bone Jesu (Dering).

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 SM, Missa iste Confessor (Palestrina), Gaude Virgo Maria (Victoria).

ST MARY'S, Cadogan Street, SW3: 8.30, 10, 11 Mass, L'Hora Passa (Viadana), Exsultate Justi (Viadana), Just As I Am (Smart). 12.15, 6.30.

OUR LADY OF VICTORIES, Kensington High Street, W8: 8.30, 10, 12.30, 6.30 LM: 11.15 SM, Missa Brevis Secunda (Goller), Senex puerum portabat (Byrd), Lumen ad revelationem gentium (Washington).

AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 11 Rev Ron P Allison.

CITY TEMPLE, Holborn, EC1: 10.30 Rev E Waugh.

HINDE STREET METHODIST CHURCH, W1: 11 Rev L Griffiths: 6.30 Rev P Hoar.

KENSINGTON TEMPLE (Charismatic), Notting Hill Gate, W11: 9, Communion, Ian Coffey: 11, Celebration, Ian Coffey: 2.30, Baptisms, Chris Cartwright: 6.30, Healing Service, Ian Coffey: 9 Talking Church.

KENSINGTON URC: Allen Street, W8: 11, 6.30 Rev P Lovatt.

REGENT SQUARE URC (Presbyterian-Congregational), Tavistock Place, WC1: 11 Rev Dr R Scoper: 5.30 Rev K Swaine.

SALVATION ARMY (Regent Hall), Oxford St W1: 11, Lt M Watson: 3 (music), 6.30, Major C Hunt.

ST ANDREW'S URC, Frognal Lane NW3: 11 Rev Dr P Morgan.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 HC, Rev W D Swanson: 7 Choral Mass with Orchestra, Missa Brevis "Sancti Joannis de Deo" (Haydn). Rev R T Englund.

ST JOHN'S WOOD URC, NW8: 11 Rev W C McCrorie.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 11 Rev Dr G E Barritt & Rev P Hulme.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30, Rev Dr R J Tudor.

WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, Buckingham Gate, SW1: 11, 6.30 Rev Dr R T Kendall.

WESTMINSTER MEETING SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers), 52 St Martins La WC2: 11, Meeting for worship.

Better building is key to cutting quake tolls

By Charles Knevitt, Architecture Correspondent

THE earthquake in northern Pakistan and Afghanistan yesterday has again focused attention on the vulnerability of the poor living in developing countries when natural disaster strikes.

More than three million people are estimated to have lost their lives through natural disasters over the past 20 years, which has led to the 1990s being declared the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction by the United Nations.

John Benyon, an American architect at Unesco's regional office in Bangkok, quotes an engineer who visited Armenia, scene of a devastating quake in 1988, as saying: "Earthquakes don't kill, buildings do." Writing in the latest issue of *Architecture in Development*, he argues that fatalities could be reduced dramatically, if not entirely eliminated, through design and building methods.

While catastrophes have not become more commonplace, their impact has been much greater, due to the population explosion and rapid urbanisation of third world countries.

Dr Yasemin Fatma Aysan, director of the Disaster Management Centre at Oxford polytechnic, says: "Strictly enforced building codes and zoning laws may help to reduce disaster risk for developing countries, but the planners and local authorities are under constant pressure to increase densities to accommodate ever increasing urban populations." Quality control is thus poor.

Multi-storey concrete buildings, erected on stilts in the manner of Le Corbusier, have proved to be wrong in principle in seismic zones, for example. Among the simple measures that Mr Benyon proposes are lessons from traditional Japanese architecture: lightweight, interconnected yet flexible wooden structures.

"An earthquake is basically a wave moving across land. The effects on buildings are usually that the foundations tend to move sideways and that the ground drops out from under them. External forces must be compensated by equal and opposite forces coming from the strength of the building itself."

The simplest advice is to create triangles, a uniquely stable geometric shape, as cross-bracing within structures. The provision of structural continuity and integrated ring beams are two other methods.

Mr Benyon says the "inglorious task" of reinforcing existing buildings is an even higher priority than designing new ones to withstand disaster.

Put me to the proof, says the Lord of Hosts, and see if I do not open windows in the sky and pour a blessing on you as long as there is need. Malachi 3:10. N.E.B.

BIRTHS

ATKINSON - On January 30th, at The Portland Hospital, to Susan (née Dobbs) and Nigel, a daughter, Victoria Eleanor, a sister for Anna and Camilla.

BAILEY - On January 18th, to Susan (née Cook) and John, a daughter, Alexandra Katerina Annalies, a sister for Francesca.

BENNETT - On January 17th in The Hague, to Lynne and Brian, a son Nicholas Christopher, a brother for Richard and James.

CICHOCKI - On January 26th to Patricia (née Davies) and Jan, a son, Daniel Stefan.

CLINCH - On February 1st, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Judith (née Clarke) and Mark, a son, Alasdair James Lister.

COX - On January 27th to Vanessa (née Fernandez) and Michael, a daughter, Tamsin Amanda.

FITZMAURICE - On January 29th, 1991, to Sally (née Bowley) and Simon, a beautiful daughter, Suzy, a sister for Emma.

HOLLOWAY - On February 1st, to Clarissa (C.J. née Rodgers) and Duncan, a son, Edward Sancho.

JOHNSON - On January 30th, 1991, at The Garden Hospital, London to Judith (née Leaf) and David, a daughter, Jessica Aimée, a sister for Edward, Mark and James.

MANNAN - On January 31st, 1991, at St. George's Hospital, to Rosina and Zahid, a daughter, Zara.

NICOL - On January 23rd 1991, at the Aberdeen Maternity Hospital, to Andrew and Julie, a son, James Peter Robert. Both well. Praise be to God, and grateful thanks to loyal family and friends and to all staff at the Aberdeen Maternity Hospital and Torphins Hospital.

PORTEOUS - On January 20th, 1991, to Bridget (née Beevor) and Matthew, a daughter, Anastasia Catherine Lucie.

PUGH - On January 31st, 1991, at Queen Charlotte's & Chelsea Hospital, to Tineke (née Haverkate) and Charles, a son, Alexander, a brother for Louise and Emilie.

STEIN - On January 27th, at the Portland Hospital, to Sheila (née Hopkins) and Peter a daughter, Katrina Aisling, a sister to Jessica.

TRENCHARD - On January 31st, to Clare (née de Burgh Marsh) and John, a daughter, Emma Claire.

DEATHS

ARMSTRONG - On January 31st 1991, in hospital after a brief illness, Prebendary J.A.L., aged 90, husband of the late Isabel and father of Michael, Alan and Richard. Funeral at St John the Baptist, Kidmore End, Oxon. on February 7th at 2.15pm. A Service of Thanksgiving for the lives of Jack and Isabel will be held at a later date.

BENTHALL - On January 30th 1991, John aged 92 years of Bourton-on-the-Hill, Glos, beloved husband of Margaret. A Service of Thanksgiving for Johns life will be held at St Lawrence Church, Bourton-on-the-Hill on Tuesday, February 5th, at 3pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired for Moreton-in-Marsh Hospital League of Friends may be left at the Church or sent to W J Wright Funeral Director, Well Lane, Stow-on-the-Wold, Glos.

CARR - On January 31st, suddenly and peacefully at home in Sheffield, R.H. Granville, the most wonderful and devoted husband of Jeanne, proud and loving father of Richard, Jonathan, David and Rowena, and fond father-in-law of Nicola and Amanda. Private cremation. No flowers please, donations for National Trust Appeal for Stowe Gardens may be sent to John Heath and Sons, Funeral Directors, Sheffield. Service of Thanksgiving for a gracious life at Millhouses Methodist Church, Sheffield Thursday February 7th at 11.30am.

CROSS - On January 31st, 1991, peacefully, Margaret Bannatyne, eldest daughter of the late Hon. Adam G. Watson and wife of the late Alexander Robertson Cross. Private cremation, family only. No flowers, donations if desired to St. Columba's Hospice, Boswell Road, Edinburgh. Memorial service to be announced later.

EBINGER - On January 29th peacefully in hospital Jo, father of Lloyd and Carl. Brother of Larry and dear friend of the Young family. Cremation on February 6th at 3pm Mortlake; no flowers.

HARDIMAN - On January 31st, Hilary, courageously after a long illness, deeply loved sister of Janis of Vale of Health, Hampstead. Funeral 10.30 am. Christchurch, Hampstead, Tuesday, February 12th, cremation private. Flowers if desired, at house by Monday pm or donations to Animal Aid.

HARRISON - On January 22nd at home in Putney, after a long illness R. Howard D.F.C. Loved husband of Danielle and father of Michael and Jane.

HAVELOCK-ALLAN - On January 31st, Simon Anthony Henry aged 47, greatly loved son of Sir Anthony Havelock-Allan and Valerie Profumo, peacefully among his friends, after a life-time's disability borne with patience and humour. Funeral private.

HUNT - On February 1st, peacefully in hospital after a short illness, Doris aged 87, lately of Freshford. Funeral service at 11.30 on Friday February 8th in the Parish Church, Norton St. Philip followed by cremation. Family flowers only.

LINDSAY-FYNN - On January 30th, 1991, peacefully at home, Audrey, wife of Basil, much loved mother of Caroline, Nigel and Adrian. Funeral service at St. Peter's Church, Budleigh Salterton, on Tuesday February 12th, at 11am, followed by cremation at Exeter.

LOVELL SMITH - On February 1st, peacefully, Frank, Indian Civil Service Retired, beloved husband of Margaret, loving father of Sheila, Anthony and Philippa and loved by his seven grandchildren. Family funeral only.

MARDON - On January 31st, Maud Elizabeth (Betty) of Crowcombe, Somerset, after a final illness, courageously borne, deeply mourned by her family and many friends. Funeral 2 p.m. Saturday February 9th, Crowcombe Church. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Crowcombe Church c/o Willicombes, Funeral Directors, High Street, Williton, Somerset.

MARTIN - On January 28th, suddenly at her home, Anne, wife of the late Captain Richard Martin, beloved mother of Ursula and Anne, grandmother of Alexandra. Funeral service at St. Olave's Church, Marygate, York, on Wednesday February 6th, at 3.15 pm. followed by interment in York Cemetery. Flowers may be sent to J. Rymer, 15, Penley's Grove Street, York.

MAYES - On January 31st, 1991, Edric Arthur, in his 90th year, peacefully after an illness bravely borne. Memorial Service 2pm on February 11th at the Church of the Holy Cross, Ashton Keynes, Wilts. Donations to Cirencester Hospital League of Friends, c/o Rex Carter, Ashton Keynes, Swindon. Tel: (0285) 861392.

MCINDOE - On January 31st, Lucy, much loved daughter of Simon Dorin and Malcolm McIndoe and sister of Emma, Matthew, Ben, Joe, Katie and Chads. Funeral on Wednesday, February 6th at 2.30 pm, St. James's Church, St. James's Square, W11 and flowers to Kenyons. 071-937 0757.

MORGAN - On January 31st, 1991, at her home in Caernarfon, Hazel, aged 67 years, formerly of Hereford, Sheffield, Prestatyn, Weybridge, Dunchurch and Cardiff, beloved wife of John Aled, devoted mother of Davina, Philip and Sylvia, loving Grandma and Mamgu of George, Katy, Thomas, Aled, Ifan, Lowri, Trefor and William. Service at Santes Fair Church, Caernarfon, on Tuesday February 5th, at 2pm followed by cremation at Bangor. Family flowers only, but donations to the Children's Society c/o Gwilym Jones & Son, Funeral Directors, South Road, Caernarfon. Tel 0286 673072

MORRIS - On Tuesday 29th January, peacefully after a short illness, Dr John Geoffrey aged 59 of North Wales (formerly of Liverpool), father of John, Mary and Alicia. Funeral service at Bangor Crematorium on Wednesday February 6th at 12 noon. No flowers by request, donations to The Cancer Research Campaign.

MUNRO - On January 22nd, at Mayfield, Queenie. Funeral on February 6th. Enquiries to Bysouth 0892 665000

ROBINSON - On January 31st, peacefully in hospital after a long illness bravely borne, Michael Oliver, much loved husband of Yvonne and dearly loved father of Judith and Derek and grandfather of Sara. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Parkinson's Disease Society, 16, Portland Place, London, W1N 3DG.

ROE - On January 30th, 1991, Elizabeth Alice, aged 88, peacefully in hospital, eldest daughter of the late Bernhard and Alice Roe (nee Castleman). Funeral service at Chettle Church on Saturday February 9th, at 2.30 pm.

SPRATLING - On Wednesday January 30th, peacefully at home in Southampton, Basil Maurice, formerly of Malvern, Worcester, educated at Merchant Taylor's School. Cremation Monday February 4th, at 11am. East Chapel, Southampton Crematorium.

TIMERMANN - On January 31st Peter at home after a short but courageous battle. Most perfect and beloved husband of Marguerite, and wonderful father of the late Geoffrey and of Richard and Alex. Funeral at St. Mary the Virgin Parish church, Westerham, Wednesday February 6th 2pm.

VIGAR - On January 28th 1991, peacefully at home, Rev. Dr. Charles Haiton MTh., DPhil., MRCS, FDS, DLO, much loved husband of Elsie and loving father of David. Funeral at Holy Trinity Church, Eastbourne, Wednesday February 6th at 2pm. Family flowers only but if desired donations to The Children's Society.

WHITTAKER - On January 30th, peacefully, Rodney, dearly loved husband to Ros and "The Best" father to Simon, Adam, Samantha and Polly. Small private funeral on February 8th. Thanksgiving Service on March 10th, at 2.30 at St. Helen Church, St. Quintin Avenue. Flowers may be sent to J. Nodes, Ladbroke Grove or donations to N.E.O.R. Trust, Charing Cross Hospital.

WILLIAMS - On January 29th, suddenly at home in Salisbury, Kingsley Williams, J.P., Chevalier de L'Ordre National du Merite. Darling husband of Joan and dearly loved and respected father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium, at 3.45pm., on Wednesday February 6th 1991. Family flowers only, donations if desired, to Cancer Relief MacMillan Fund, Anchor House, Britten Street, SW3 3TZ. Thanksgiving Memorial Evensong at Salisbury Cathedral, date to be announced later.

WILLIAMS - On January 29th, at home in Salisbury, Kingsley Williams J.P., Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Merite, darling husband of Joan and dearly loved father, grandfather and great grandfather. Funeral service at Salisbury Crematorium at 3.45pm on February 6th. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Cancer Relief MacMillan Fund, 15-19, Britten St. SW3 3TZ. A Thanksgiving Service at Salisbury Cathedral to be announced later.

ZULFICAR - On Monday January 28th, suddenly, in her home, Mrs Iffat (Fafie) née Mohsen. The family will receive, in her apartment at 4pm on Saturday, March 9th.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

MURRAY SMITH - A Memorial Service for Lt. Col. G.A. Murray Smith will be held on Thursday, February 28th 2.30pm at St. Mary's Church, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

IN MEMORIAM — WAR

WIGRAM - Major Lionel. In ever loving memory.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

COVEN - In cherished memory of Rale, very loved Mamma, on her birthday, February 3rd. Frank and Edwina.

JOHNSON - On February 3rd, 1976, Mary Elizabeth. In ever loving remembrance, Margaret and Tobo.

LAWRENCE - In very loving memory of Geoffrey, February 3rd 1967 - Avice.

LAWRENCE - In very loving memory of Geoffrey, February 3rd 1967. Avice.

LOWENFELD - Dr. Margaret, February 2nd, 1973. 'She did not pass by on the other side'. In affectionate remembrance.

Birth and Death notices may be accepted over the telephone.

For publication the following day please telephone by 5.00pm Monday to Thursday, 4pm Friday, 9.30am-1.00pm Saturday for Monday's paper.

071 481 4000

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LTD. Recommend that before replying to any advertisement in these columns, please take all normal precautionary measures, as Times Newspapers Ltd. cannot be held responsible for any action or loss resulting from an advertisement carried in these columns.

AUTHORS

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25 High Street,
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USA SUMMER JOBS: ranches, resorts etc. Directory listing 75,000 jobs in W.H. Smith etc. or £8.95 from Vac Work. 9 Park End St., Oxford.

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACTON, W3 large 5-bedroomed house £139,950. Tel: 081 992 6891

AMSTRAD PCW8256 for sale immac condition inc extras. Only £199. Tel 081 766 6557

AMSTRAD PPC640DD plus monitor & software £450. Sarah: 29 Shaftesbury Road, Coventry.

ANYTIME, any place any job. Student 19 seeks summer employment. 0533 713484.

AUPAIR/Nanny. Reliable British student seeks 1st summer vac post. UK/Abroad. 0225 836782

BESSON Sovereign 928 Cornet, excellent condition. £500 ono. Tel 061 338 5219, after 8pm

BETTY BOO Boomania Cd. bargain at £8. Tel: Ian on 0603 260479

BIKE, computer games package and tape player for sale. Call 941 0485

BOOSEY and Hawkes flute sale £120 o.n.o, very good condition. 0604 706200.

CAMBRIDGE undergrad reqs fnl. summer job. Anything considered. R Bradley, St Johns College

CHEAP advertising in rag mag distributed in London. Contact Sharon. 071 955 71336.

DOUBLE bass for sale. Also baritone saxophone. Tel: (0533) 899798.

FOR SALE. B - block, superbly situated, big tourist attraction only £2250 and be-cri.

FRIENDSHIP, write to me. Ages 16 to 24. Ring 081 427 996, for address.

GEOFF Badgell, happy birthday 18 on 7th February with much love Sarah.

GLORIA Estefan. 13th April. 2 front row tickets. Phone Tali on 081 864 5433

GRADUATE GP surveyor seeks employment from July. Sheffield 507436. 1 year TPC exp.

HAPPY birthday Deborah, waiter waiter wheres my starter. Love Stuart.

HAPPY 18th birthday - Lee Russell for the 8th - Adam. W.

HENRIETTA Cutler, happy 16th birthday, 30th Jan 1991. Love Mummy, Hugh and Family.

HONDA Accord B reg. Low mileage. Central locking. 081 3451102. Flat 31a £3495.

ILKS loves Pru.

JESSICA, the one I love. I give you my heart. Brett

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

JESSICA, the one I love. I give you my heart. Brett

LARGE room all mod cons, prof pref. £50 p.w. 081 6769647.

MANDIE wishing you a wonderful 21st birthday. All my love forever, Ally.

MARK Ward. Life begins 4th February. Happy 40th! Your eldest nephew.

4 MERCEDES alloy wheels good condition £100 o.n.o 0932 24005353.

MINI 1275GT, tax, mot, sunroof, alloys, excellent cond £600 Tel: 048632 216.

NANNY available, north - west easter vacation, good refs 051 4941052 eves.

NEFF double oven grill 1061 - SP, brand new only £199. Phone now 081 9989495.

NICK happy 18th, Have a cracking day! From Monsieur 'Arwood, well Paul.

NIKKO NA-790 integrated amplifier for sale. £20 ono. Tel: 091 384 0131

NURSING student needs cheap but reliable car for work please 0702 611999.

QUICK discs wanted for use with Roland S-10 swaps a possibility. Tel 091 821 3806

RANDALL-CARTE flute, good condition - £175. Ring 0483 570987

SENSIBLE nineteen year old student looking for summer work after A - levels. 091 4697351.

SHARP R4904O cassette car stereo with lw/mw radio £15 o.n.o. 081 6607437.

SINGLE room, furnished flat, Edinburgh. Female non - smokers. £250 pcm 031 661 2689.

SONY betamovie BMC - 100P. Case batteries. Hardly used £250. 07655700142.

STUDENT with secretarial skills seeks canadian summer job. Please help. 0904433400.

SUMMER vacation work wanted by second year economics student. Phone 0904 656504.

SUZUKI GP100, 1981, exc cond. T&T, complete engine rebuild. £350 ono. 081 348 3839

TALENTED business undergrad seeks industrial placement in Bournemouth area. 081 549 3207

TAMSIN Douglas Miller. Happy 21st birthday, lots of love, Baby and Alex.

TOSHIBA ER-672ET microwave oven, good cond. Tel Cumberland (Scotland) 0236 720197

TWIN PEAKS addicts sought. Jeremy, 67 Broadacres, Templepatrick, BT39 0AY.

TYRES as new 185/70 SR13 Rallied avon Turbo sport, three £15 0816507437.

UNDERGRADUATE (computer science) seeks summer employment. In london. 081 659 1591.

VW GOLF 16v 1989 (F) black many extras. Low mileage. £10,500. 071935 2462.

WANTED black leather bikers jacket, medium. Staffordshire /Cheshire area. 0782 720413

W1 flat to let, one bedroom, lounge, kitchen, terrace. Phone 081-570 0781

WYLES - CLARE. Happy birthday. Lots of love from David.xxxxx.

BIRTHDAYS

LYNNE Dickerson is 40 today! Unbelievable, but she still only looks 26!

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WANTED

TICKETS FOR SALE

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DIEHAN, Etienne. Collectors seeks pastels and drawings by this artist. Please write to Williams, 6 Gerald Road, SW1.

OXFORD GRADUATE seeks funding for 1st year Phd. on Rain Forest Restoration using tribal knowledge. Tel: 0734 428931

SPONSOR / BENEFACTOR required. Short term sponsorship sought by budding writer to realise potential. Genuine enquiries please reply to Box No 2682

FOR SALE

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CONTENTS of Warwickshire country house for sale. Furniture, pictures, ornaments, chandeliers. £20,000. No dealers. Please Reply to Box No 2671

ERIC CLAPTON (Rock). 7.2.91 Royal Albert Hall. Box for 8 with full hospitality available. Tel: 071-389 6407.

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PIANO SALE Exceptional reductions on our extensive range of new S/H and Roland digital pianos. Free Catalogue. The Piano Workshop 30A Highgate Rd NW5 071 267 7671

ANIMALS & BIRDS

WEST HIGHLAND White Terriers. Tiny Yorkies and Scottie puppies. KC Reg. Private breeder. Tel: 0974 272588

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

ALL OTHERS NEED to love and be loved. So start the search for your soul-mate. Call Jennifer Wills for a straight talking, highly successful introduction service. Tel 071 287 0938

ANNE - SLIM feminine, vibrant, warm, fun, widow. New Forest area. Seeks cultured, discerning, non-smoking gentleman, over 55yrs with zest for living, keen on travel, theatre, walking, dancing, home-life - just like myself! Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 2649

ARE you 47+, British, German or Swiss, attractive personality & appearance, cheerful, practical, poss ex-airline cabin crew, financially secure & ready for lasting new start in life with super guy, mid 50's, of integrity, fit, loyal, affectionate. Wonderful if you also play golf, enjoy gardening. Please write with photo, essential. Box 2616.

ATTRACTIVE DIVORCEE 45, n/s Derby/Yorks borders public school educated, seeks attractive unattached professional gentleman, 45 - 55 with travel/country interests. Photo ensures reply. Please Reply to Box No 2602

AUSTRIAN LADY attractive, tall, slim, well-educated, youthful 49. Interests include theatre, opera, concerts, art, tennis, walks in the country & travel, wishes to meet gentleman 50 - 60, n/s with similar interests. Photo appreciated. Box No 2696

BEAUTIFUL, feminine, graduate, 35 seeks Mr Right, Cambridge area. Reply to Box No 2691

CAMBRIDGE male graduate (Zoology, former scholar) divorced 55, manic-depressive suffering unrequited love, seeks woman of genius.

CHARMING, attractive, slim lady (49) seeks successful, generous, supportive gentleman, Yorks/Lancs. Reply to Box No 2686

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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EUROPEAN attractive lady, 32, sophisticated, well-travelled, professional, new in London, seeks gentleman for company/romance. Please Reply to Box No 2609

GAY 32, attractive, professional, sincere, successful, wealthy, seeks similar successful 40-55 year old male for loving and caring relationship. Own home, car and homes abroad. Varied interests include sport, travel, theatre, art and country weekends. Photo appreciated. Discretion assured. Please Reply to Box No 2650

HEATHER JENNER - The Marriage Bureau (est. 1939 Member SMB.) Why not let our experience help you find a partner? 124 New Bond St. W1. 071-629 9634.

I'M BACK IN LONDON - After 6 happy expat years, I'm a successful business woman, in my early 50s, stylish, slim and charismatic. I have many friends but would love a permanent relationship with a quick witted caring and accomplished gentleman. I'll respond to your letter and photo Box No 2666

JOIN 3 gorgeous professional ladies for dinner with view to making new and interesting friends. (30 plus). Write with photo personal details and phone number to Box No 2678

MAKE FRIENDS at our convivial dinner parties for single professionals 25+. London Epicureans. 081-346 9255/367 1896.

MALE teacher, 30, London, n/s, loving, caring, well travelled, enjoys walking, films, theatre, would love to meet home-loving girl in her 20's. Please Reply to Box No 2644.

MERCHANT BANKERS, lawyers, accountants, company directors need only reply. Well, why not? I know what I want. Lady in early 40's with all the usual advertised qualities would like to meet a man with a head for sense and a heart for love.

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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Phone today and speak to Gwen, 081-455 4703

RED haired, blue eyed, lovely lady looking for a reliable man (40-60) with sense of humour, zest for life and the wherewithall to enjoy it! Please Reply to Box No 2645.

SLIM, attractive, bright, Leo lady seeks fun loving, quality man 58-60's as friend/companion to share interesting life. Please Reply to Box No 2673

SOUGHT Educated professional gentleman 50-60 years, for slim, attractive, cultured and lively lady who enjoys theatre and music. Home and country loving. East Anglia or home counties preferred. Please Reply to Box No 2659

'THE ULTIMATE in small, made-to-measure marriage bureaux' (S.Tel.) Est. 1960. Katharine Allen, 18 Thayer St, London W1M 5LD. Tel: 071-935 3115

TIME to re-marry. Reasonable honest nice looking lady 40, n/s seeks like minded partner. Letters/photo to Box No 2658

WEALTHY Businessman early 30's, recently moved to Chelsea Harbour would like to meet lady, circa 26, for friendship / relationship. Must have great personality / looks / figure. Please send recent photo + details to Box No 2661

WEST SURREY based company director, solvent, fit and young, 45, seeks exciting 35/40 lady with no commitments for wining and dining. n/s, photo appreciated.

WIDOW, possibly with young family, sought as new partner by attractive, kind, humorous graduate in similar circumstances. Reply to Box No 2689

YOU are a cultured, elegant, amusing, unattached man 40 plus. With a taste for the finer things in life. I am an undiscovered gem, feminine, self supporting, unencumbered and looking for you. Recent photograph appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 2607

YOUTHFUL 45, widower, tall, slim, stylish, country builder, seeks the opportunity to explore culture: Theatre, London, with sincere, outgoing slim lady, 30-40. Photo ensures reply. Please Reply to Box No 2661

FLATSHARE

BATTERSEA, dbl rm, bath & private sitting rm, share lge kit, dining & gdns, well appointed. £175 pw. 071-228 0420.

CHELSEA Large double room, all amenities, near Kings Road. £90 pw. Tel: 071-823 6587

FEMALE Graduate (25) and well behaved cat seek room in central London Flat, from 1st March '91, upto £60pw. 071-233 7394 eves.

HAMPSTEAD NW3. Tidy, reliable, prof. f. to share lux. flat, nr Swiss cottage th. Own rm and bathrm, £130pw excl. 071 580 0309 (o). 071 435 6358 (h).

HIGHGATE. Dbl Rm in fully furn lge flat. Prof to share with F Dr. £240 pcm. 071 263 7737.

NEAR Chelsea harbour. 2 bed flat, sleeps 3, all facilities, Near tube, 2 non smokers wanted. o/r, £80 pw Tel: 071 736 0266.

N2 Prof Fem N/S. 25+, to share lux flat, all facs. O/R. 2 mins tube. £70 pw. 081-442 1217.

NW2 lge rm, newly decor, n/s, all amenities, nr tube, £65 pw incl. Ref reqd. 081 743 1034.

PUTNEY room in conserv terrace home, n/s, nr transport, shops. £260 pcm incl. 081 788 2464.

FLATSHARE

RICHMOND HILL Double bed to let in stunning grade II listed Georgian apartment with breathtaking views over the River Thames. Share drawing room, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room. Suit professional person. £100 pw. Phone Marc 081-940 1575 or 081-948-2825

STH HAMPSTEAD Lge dbl rm in newly dec spac flat, all mod cons, CH. Close tube. Non smoking young prof £65 pw excl. Avail now. 071-328 5577.

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ACCOMMODATION URGENTLY req for City institutions. Call us with your properties to let Sebastian Estates 071 381 4998

ALL PROPERTIES W / SW London urgently reqd for Company clients. 071-731 1407 T

BALHAM Large comfortable secure 2 bedroom flat. Nr tube & Common. £170 pw. Tel 081-675 5927 (After 6 pm).

BROOK GREEN W6 Spacious, Lux. Victorian house. 5 bed, 3 bath, 2 receps, oak kitchen. Overlooking green and Tennis cts. £900 pw. 071-602 9368.

CHELSEA SW10. Spacious s/c flat. Ent hall, recep room, dble bed, kit, bath, exc storage. Furn/ unfurn. £170 pw to inc CH & HW. Tel: 071-352 5969

CHELSEA Kings Rd & Thames Lux balcony apt. Dble bedrm, recep. kit. 071-622 5826

CHELSEA HARBOUR 2 dbl bed, f/f de-lux. £295 pw exc bills. 021-783 9865.

CHISWICK W4 Lux 1 d/bed. f/f flat, close tube and river. £135pw. 081 994 7507

CLAPHAM COMMON Northside, just off. Newly converted light and airy 2 bed luxury flat. All mod cons, fully furn. GCH. £170 pw. Tel. 071 380 0702.

COVENT GARDEN luxury 1 bedroom flat in a fabulous private complex above Neal's Yard. Video entry phone etc. Must be seen. £225 pw ono. Telephone: Howard 081 554 3142.

HARLEY STREET, W1. 2 bedroom luxury furnished flat, spacious sitting/dining room good for entertaining, with entry phone. Tel: 081-904 9388.

HIGHGATE, N6. 2 bed lux flat. American shower. Parking. £150 pw. 081-340 7408.

KENSINGTON Gardens, 2 mins. Charming, quiet, secure garden flat. 3 double bedrooms. £315 pw. 071-937 9674.

KENSINGTON 2 dble rms in mans blk own shwr c/h equipped kit £90 pw 071 603 7110

MAYFAIR W1 Lux. 2 bed flats in superb period building (slps 4). Only £250 p.w. 071 823 8937.

MUSWELL HILL 2 x 2 bed furnished flats, new refurb, washer/dryer, CH. £180 pw. (0525) 54125 eves/wkends

ONSLOW GARDENS - SW7. Magnificent maisonette. 22x16' reception room/high ceiling. 2 dbl bedrms, en-suite dressing rm, large bathrm, fully fitted kit.com gdns,porter. optional housekeeper, ideal entertaining! £400 pw. Co.let pref. 071-412 5670 (O)/373 4846 (H).

S KENSINGTON would suit prof n/s. f. 3 mins tube. Double bedrm, bathrm. FF kit. lounge: £150pw excl. 0604 262009 anytime.

W14. Lux 2 bedroom furnished flat. Dining/ lounge, kitchen, bath, CH. Suit prof couple or 3 prof ladies. £975 pcm. Tel: 071-602 6712 between 10 - 5.

WANTED: journalist seeks flat, quiet and light. Kens/ Chelsea pref. Tel: 071 792 0672.

W1, 2 bed well furnished, newly decorated flat. £300pw. Tel: 071-828 6027 9-5pm.

W1 Charming 2 bed mews flat. Central to Oxford St and tubes. £245pw. Tel: 071-935 6631.

WEST KEN. Super well cited, 3 bed flat. CH, nr tube £190 pw. For details 081 748 1356

W6 Stamford Brook. Quiet 3 bedroomed flat, near tube, references required. £180 pw Tel: 071 602 7070

W1 Stunning 1 bed penthouse flat £380pw short let, £260pw long let. Tel: 071 706 0049.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

CHEF Required for private Central London flat. Live out. 1st class refs and private service experience essential. No weekends Other staff kept. Tel: 071-495 1914.

SITUATIONS VACANT

CHAUFFEUSE, youngish, calm driver, required by elderly gentleman for fortnight, approx end July for country visits to friends. Salary, accommodation, expenses. Reply Box 2666

SITUATIONS WANTED

PRIVATE CHAUFFEUSE/PA. requires work from end of Feb based in Thames Valley. Excellent references. 0628 483045

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT
OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
No.00746 of 1991
IN THE MATTER OF
DRUMMOND GROUP PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 8th January 1991 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above named Company by the sum of £500,000

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr Justice Harman at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Monday 11th day of February 1991.

Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an order for the confirmation of the said reduction of Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 1st day of February 1991.

Messrs Booth & Co
of P.O. Box 8, Sovereign House,
South Parade, LEEDS LS1 1HQ
REF PJC/SVR.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

BRAIN, BEATRICE BLANCHE of 1 CAMOMILE AVENUE, MITCHAM, SURREY CR4 2XD died on 28TH JUNE 1990 Particulars to GODFREY DAVIS & BALDWIN Solicitors of 19A UPPER GREEN EAST, MITCHAM, SURREY CR4 2XD before 19TH APRIL 1991

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 22

SCATCH

(a) A stilt, from the Old North French *escache*: "Never will I go to see her, till geese go in scatches, and the little cats wear ball-dresses made of finest taffeta."

PORRACEOUS

(b) Leek-green, from the Latin *porrum* a leek: "If the lesser intestines be wounded, he will be troubled with porraceous vomiting."

PANOCHA

(a) A kind of Mexican coarse sugar used as a staple food, from the Spanish word: "With ten pounds of jerky, a cone of panocha or pressed brown sugar, and a serape, or grey blanket, a Mexican is fitted for a trip of several hundred miles through the mountains."

FABBY

(a) Wonderful, informal British, a usage restricted mainly to pre-adolescent girls, based apparently on the now venerable *fab*: "But not when it's three lucky *Jackie* readers! We brightened up their February with a fabby new look."

FEB 2 — ON THIS DAY — 1911

In his diary for February 1, 1911 the King wrote: "The whole story is a damnable life and has been in existence now for over twenty years. I trust that this will settle it once and for all."

THE KING'S HONOUR

TRIAL OF MYLIUS FOR CRIMINAL LIBEL

The following document, signed by the King, was read by the Attorney-General in Court yesterday afternoon after the defendant in The King v E F Mylius had been found guilty and sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment for publishing criminal libels on the King:

I am authorised by his Majesty to state publicly that he was never married except to the Queen, and that he never went through any ceremony of marriage except with the Queen; and further that he would have attended to give evidence to this effect had he not received advice from the Law Officers of the Crown that it would be unconstitutional for him to do so...

The case was heard before the Lord Chief Justice and a special jury in the Lord Chief Justice's Court.

The defendant, who, despite the foreign appearance of his name, speaks with an English accent, conducted his case in person.

The Attorney-General then opened the case for the Crown. Speaking in grave and measured tones, he said that the charge was brought upon an information filed by him in his official capacity for a libel of a grave and serious character reflecting on the King, attacking him in his honour, and reflecting upon him so as to lower him in the esteem and respect of all honourable and right-minded citizens. The libel was contained in leaflets published in November and December in a journal or pamphlet called the *Liberator*, which was devoted to the spread of Republican ideas. The prosecution, however, was not in respect of any observations of a Republican character. It was brought because the defendant had circulated in this country an attack on the King in respect of his marriage with the Queen in July, 1893. He had asserted that that was a sham and shameful marriage, a bigamous marriage, and an offence against the Church, for the reason that the King in 1890, while at Malta, married the daughter of an admiral. The suggestion made was that the King, having contracted that marriage and having had offspring by it, had, in the words of the libel, "foully abandoned" the lady whom he had married in 1890 in order that he might marry a Princess under the Royal Marriages Act, so that there might be a valid marriage. These statements were printed in Paris in the *Liberator* published monthly in that city by one Edward Holden James. From Paris copies of the *Liberator* were sent to the defendant to be distributed throughout this country.

The Attorney-General having read the passages complained of, which asserted that the King had married the daughter of Admiral Sir Michael Culme-Seymour, affirmed that there was not the slightest vestige of truth in any of the statements complained of...

It would be proved that the King was never in Malta in 1890 or at any time approaching that period. Moreover the ladies of Sir M. Culme-Seymour's family never went to Malta till October or November, 1893, some months after the present King was married to the Queen. The Malta registers of marriage had been brought to this country, and not only was there no record of such a marriage as alleged but there was no marriage of anybody of the name of Seymour recorded in those registers. Defendant contended that as the Court refused to require the filing of the affidavits or the sworn testimony of the King, it had no juridiciton, and he refused to proceed further.

The Judge reminded the defendant that he had expressed an intention to call evidence.

The defendant replied that the King was the witness he wished to call.

This evidence being disallowed, the Judge proceeded to sum up. At the conclusion of the summing up the jury, without leaving the box, found a verdict of *Guilty* on all the three charges...

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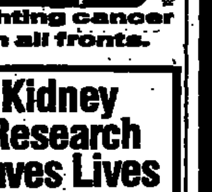

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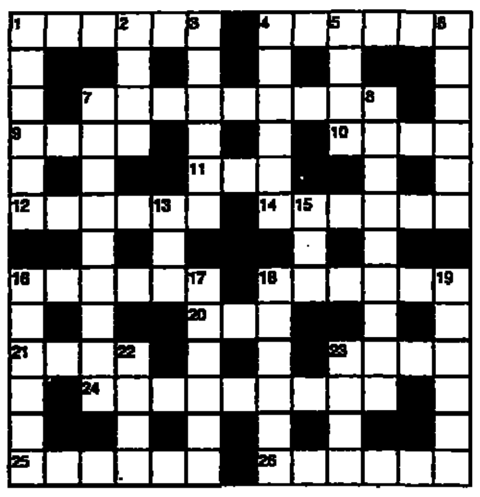

ACROSS
1 Assisted (6)
4 Herald's jacket (6)
7 Fruit of one's labours (9)
9 Godsend (4)
10 Stumbling block (4)
11 Cable transporter (3)
12 Act correctly (6)
14 Green woodpecker (6)
16 Jettisoned (6)
18 Record cover (6)
20 Request (3)
21 Air current (4)
23 Enthralled (4)
24 Mesmerise (9)
25 Simply (6)
26 Hasten (6)

DOWN
1 Pandemonium (6)
2 Scheme (4)
3 Infer by reasoning (6)
4 Tacky (6)
5 Prison window paling (4)
6 Flaunt (6)
7 Vietminh leader (2,3,4)
8 Critical balance point (5,4)
13 Compete (3)
15 Afflict (3)
16 Loose throat skin (6)
17 Delicate (6)
18 Drawing (6)
19 Motor (6)
22 Ditch bank (4)
23 In this state (2,2)

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DOWN: 1 Cat 2 Creeper 3 Limp 5 Squirrel 6 Allot 7 Long-range 9 Kleptomania 11 Rehearsal 13 At a guess 15 Soldier 17 Meant 19 Skip 22 God

Home from home: Robert Robinson

A relaxed way to stop the week

The philosophy behind having two homes, Robert Robinson says, is that the first one is "the house you have to live in, you're forced to live in, while a second house is one you volunteer for, so all the pressures are off; in a way, it's almost as if you're playing at living in a house". This is one of the reasons why he feels "awfully relaxed" at his flint cottage in Somerset — "because I don't have to be here", he explains.

The 63-year-old writer and broadcaster slips comfortably into the role of the wax-coated, green-wellied countryman, strolling across the neighbouring farmland with his gun, which he insists is "really more like a walking stick". Even so, he has had the odd pheasant "and once or twice I've managed to pot a pigeon".

Josephine, his wife, plucks and prepares his victims as, one feels, the talkative Mr Robinson is more at home with concepts than practicalities. He did once borrow a Merry Tiller to plough up an area of garden, but admits that "the air was blue with the language and my wife's mother had to put her hands over her ears". He was greatly impressed when a fortnight later a green haze appeared where he had sown grass seed. He also makes cider with his recently purchased cider press and grinder.

Mrs Robinson's convent school memories of Dorset persuaded them to look for a weekend place in the country 20 years ago. They were so charmed by the cottage with its rolling one-third of an acre, in the centre of a one-shop village, that they immediately sent a cheque for the full price to the vendor, who had to return it after they were advised by their solicitor that this was not the done thing.

With its panoramic views across the Blackdown Hills on the Devon border, the four-bedroom 17th century cottage fitted precisely their criterion of "a house out of whose windows you could see country, what the Japanese call a borrowed landscape".

In those days, with small children and a vanishing cat, she recalls that "a certain amount of generalship" was necessary to transport the family from their four-storey, end-of-terrace Queen Anne house in Chelsea to Somerset for their holidays. Now, they use the cottage mainly for weekends and at Christmas, which they spend with their three children — Nick, aged 30, a civil servant; Lucy, 24, an actress; and Suzy, 18, who is preparing to go to university.

On summer evenings Mr Robinson likes to stand at the end of the garden with a glass of whisky, gazing at the view, imagining he is on the deck of a cruise ship. "We talk to the cows," he says, and points out the bush which is home to a fox and her progeny.

Despite his zest for country living, he prefers to take it in small doses. "After two or three days, I'm ready to go back to London. I've no stamina, no character, no fibre, nothing. People say 'poor old you having to go back to the smoke', and I say 'I can't wait'." But after a week or so in the capital he longs to return to the log fires, the smell of damp and the "old mouldy" books which he regards as the essence of country life.

> *'At dinner parties, Bob is not in a position to shut the guests up as he does on his radio programme'*

Mrs Robinson, whom he met at Oxford, is a former actress and now his agent — "back-up to the family machine". She claims a "less feverish" personality. "One has more time to waste here."

When they socialise it is mainly with friends from London, people such as the author John Fowles, who lives in nearby Lyme Regis, and the broadcaster Sir Robin Day. Dinner parties, however, are held mainly at their Chelsea home, where the table talk does not emulate Mr Robinson's weekly radio conversation in *Stop the Week*. "Bob is not in a position to shut the guests up as he does on *Stop the Week*," Mrs Robinson says.

Before going to Somerset, they usually stock up with food from Marks & Spencer — "anything that says 'new' I like to buy", Mr Robinson says; "it's a triumph of hope over experience." They get cheeses from the village shop, fish from Lyme Regis "which have just jumped out of the sea", and poultry from an organic farm.

The cottage is full of chintz, and oak furniture which they found at auctions, and paintings which Mr Robinson buys on impulse, and which Mrs Robinson describes as amorphous. "Eclectic is a nicer word," he says.

"One doesn't have the same feeling of responsibility about this house," Mrs Robinson says. "Here it's much easier." In their Chelsea home they would never dream of displaying knick-knacks such as the deer's skull and stone axeheads which sit on the shelf in their cottage living-room.

Yet they do not regard it as just a holiday home. "I *do* feel like a native," Mr Robinson says. "I never wanted to live wholly in the country but it's a lovely addition. I wouldn't buy this place now but, my goodness, I wouldn't sell it."

SALLY BROMPTON

MARC GIDDINGS

Fitting in stylishly with country life: Robert and Josephine Robinson in Somerset with their dog, Fred

Country Events

THIS WEEKEND

● **Beekeeping weekend:** Learn how to set up a beehive and handle bees. Also demonstrations, honey-tasting and wax model-making. Free guided winter bird-watching walk tomorrow from 2pm.
The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, Arundel, West Sussex (0903 883355). Today, tomorrow, 9.30am-5.30pm. Last entry 4pm. Adult £3, child £1.50, family ticket £7.50.

● **Helping hands:** At Hall Marsh, conservation tasks for those aged 16 or over to help create gravel islands for the park's summer visitors (little ringed plovers) or learn how to coppice. Tasks to suit all. *Meet at Highbridge car park, Station Road, between Waltham Cross and Waltham Abbey, Essex, tomorrow 10am. Work goes on until 3pm.*

● **February garden open days:** The traditional seven-acre Edwardian garden laid out on the grounds of a Norman castle are open tomorrow and on subsequent Sundays until February 24. Also Wednesdays before that date, and a special Saturday February 16. *Benington Lordship Gardens, Benington, Stevenage, Hertfordshire. Tomorrow and other dates 12 noon-5pm. Adult £1.70. Accompanied child under 18 free.*

● **Guided walk:** The local nature conservancy council is organising an eight-mile walk to explore limestone pavements, landscape, archaeology and natural history of Sunbiggin Tarn. Take picnic lunch. *Meet at Great Asby Church, East Cumbria (NY681132) tomorrow, 10am. Adult £1, child 50p.*

NEXT WEEK

● **RHS Workshop:** Learn more about seeds and potting composts. *Pershore College of Horticulture, Avonbank, Pershore, Worcestershire (0836 552443). Wed 10am-12 noon. RHS member £3.50, non-member £7. Book in advance.*

● **Dunham Massey Concert:** Held in the Great Hall of the 18th-century mansion, the Camerata Wind Soloists will play Beethoven, Hummel, Mozart and Schubert. *Dunham Massey Hall, Altrincham, Cheshire. Friday 8.15pm. Concert £9, supper £10.50, both bookable in advance from the concert's secretary. Information: 061-941 1025.*

JUDY FROSHAUG

Farmer's diary: Paul Heiney

Alice's view on a pig in a poke

EVEN above the stench of a cloistered farmyard in mid-winter, I can still sniff an issue as it comes wafting down the valley, particularly one which carries the heady scent of showbiz about it.

Various perfumed Joannas and Glorias have signed a petition to support a ban on keeping pigs in narrow, hideous stalls, and the use of tethers to restrict what little movement the creatures have. The government has promised action, but not before the turn of the century; the National Farmers Union has adopted its traditional Luddite stance and opposed any change.

What none of the parties to this debate has done, however, is speak to the victims. I have.

Alice, our Large Black sow, is residing at what might be called her town address. Normally, she patrols the orchard, which she considers her rural retreat, but comes up to the metropolitan bustle of the farmyard when it is time to farrow. Her sty is not narrow, and does not confine her in any way: it is roomier than many an Earls Court bed-sit.

In this cold weather she spends most of the day playing Garbo behind the door, emerging into the world only for sanitary purposes (always in the northeast corner) and for meals (taken in the southwest corner). Pigs are fastidious. Her outside run is bedded deep with soft oat-straw, so as not to be hard on her feet. She likes her comforts. While feeding her litter, Alice lies indoors in such a position that only the damp, slimy extremity of her black snout peeps round the door. It twiches and scans like early-warning radar. She can detect a swill bucket two counties away.

To get her view on close confinement I shut the door on her and bolted it. There was a dreadful shocked silence while she came to terms with the indignity. The delicate snout pressed against the door, but it did not budge. She grunted at it but it did not surrender. Then an eerie silence fell, broken moments later by the faint sound of what I swear was a whimper. It was not the squeal of anger she emits when moved against her will, nor the sharp reproving snort she fires off when more than ready for her meal. It was a whimper. A cry. No heart could remain unmoved. I opened the door. Interview over.

So good luck to the Joannas and Glorias and let all pigs be free, like Alice. I fear, however, that not everyone will rejoice when swine finally get their liberation. You see, on the sandy coastlands round here farmers find it better to keep pigs out of doors and free-ranging. They ring the fields with electric fencing and then scatter huts in which the pigs live: the huts are made of shiny corrugated tin, bent into a crescent shape with a simple wooden back and front. They look like small Nissen huts. Pigs love them but — and here's the problem — the neighbours loathe them.

The issue of these pig arcs "littering the countryside" has made one village near here kick up a stink more powerful than any pig could emit. "They are," bleat the humans, "turning our countryside into a silver city of pig arcs." I have heard it said by locals that some, if not most, of the complainants are "London-types".

Some public figures have been brave enough to advocate that confinement of pigs should continue. Edwina Currie appears to be persuaded by the argument of a farming voter who said that if we give up intensive pig production we will have to import more pork, which, since we would be the only country in Europe to introduce this ban, would mean that pigs elsewhere would suffer. I thought I might bounce this one off on Alice, but such a feeble justification for mass mistreatment of animals hardly seemed worth lugging across the farmyard, even in a swill bucket.

If ever there was a "pig-in-the-middle" situation this is one. Nice country-loving, green-wellied liberal thinkers are repelled by the captivity of an animal as intelligent as the pig, but equally revolted by the sight of them when they are let free. "It's not the pigs," they will say defensively, "it's the silver huts they live in. They're just too ghastly."

Well, having bought a pig arc recently, I must report that there was not a lot of choice. The Liberty-print pig shelter is some years away, and so somebody's going to have to lump it. I hope it is not the pig.

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Reach for your swards

Feather report

Robin Jacques

Scene for an aria: tufty culm grassland where curlews breed in summer

THE first thing I was taught when I joined the *Surrey Mirror* newspaper in Redhill was how to create a controversy. If plans were announced for a new roundabout, the story was not, "Redhill will have a new roundabout". The chief reporter told you to go to the site and knock on doors. Before the day was out you were writing, "Redhill residents are up in arms about council plans to build . . ."

There is a natural tendency for anyone, journalist or not, to see conservation as a similar sort of dramatic clash. Farmers are destroying a natural resource, local conservationists are up in arms. Every conservation issue is seen as a shootout.

There is, it would seem, a natural antipathy between farmers and conservationists. This is not wholly illusory, but I have recently been to Devon where the county wildlife trust is doing all it can to co-operate with farmers.

The issue is culm grassland, a north Devon mosaic of heath, fen and grassland that has not been "improved" by ploughing, draining, spraying, liming, reseeding, or adding artificial fertiliser or slurry.

The point about culm grassland is that it has been grazed for centuries. The grazing has maintained a stable community of plants, insects, mammals and, yes, birds. It is not a spectacular habitat, and it does not support any fiendishly rare birds.

Conservation is not just about saving the glamour boys; it is just as important to save the relatively humdrum. We will be among the many losers if we do not. As Oliver Rackham said in his important book, *History of the Countryside*: "Almost every rural change since 1945 has extended what is already commonplace at the expense of what is wonderful, or is rare, or has meaning."

I especially like this insistence that countryside has meaning. Culm grassland is meaningful: in human terms, and in wildlife terms. And it does have some excellent birds: barn owls hunt in their spooky way across the open expanses, and curlew breed on the tufty sward in summer. Lapwing also nest there, along with declining birds such as stonechat, whinchat, tree-pipit and grasshopper-warbler. In winter, you find snipe and woodcock.

This is not a place for great concentrations of birds. You do not clock up fabulous numbers and amazing rarities by walking culm grassland, so birders tend to go elsewhere. But conservation is not about good places for birdwatchers: it is about good places for birds. Culm grassland is, in fact, rather under-birded, and the Devon Wildlife Trust is looking for volunteers to help with its census work.

Culm grassland is also important, and meaningful, for botanists and entomologists. Whorled caraway and wavy St John's wort are culm specialities, along with the marsh fritillary butterfly. It is a special stuff, this culm grassland. But there is less and less of it.

A SURVEY showed that, in a sample area of about 15½ square miles, 39 per cent of culm grassland was lost between 1984 and 1989. If you exclude land already protected as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, the figure is 65 per cent. The trust reckons that at this rate there will be no culm grassland left within a decade.

The best way to save it is to buy it. The trust has done some of that, but to buy all of it is impossible. The short answer is to co-operate with the farmers. This is going well: the farmers, far from being up in arms, are often delighted to find that scruffy wasteland has all these wonderful things in it.

The long-term answer is money; it always is. The trust is exploring ways of setting up, through central government, a mechanism for compensating farmers who do not "improve" their remaining acres of culm grassland. They want the culm to be economically viable.

The trust is also working with local councils, the local landowners' association, the National Farmers Union and a shoal of other related organisations.

There is more than enough "improved" land to satisfy demand in this country. It is not necessary to turn Devon into another Lincolnshire: a vast open-air food factory. The trust is seeking to work alongside the farmers to improve the quality of life for farmers, Devonians, Devon visitors, barn owls, curlews and wavy St John's wort plants.

"The Devon Wildlife Trust is in the vanguard of those who are calling for the same fair and full remuneration for an agriculture conducted in the interest of the nation's natural heritage as for one conducted in the interests of the nation's economic imperatives," the trust says. And it concludes: "The trust believes that a nation willing to spend more in subsidy on the Royal Opera than on all its national parks has clearly got its priorities wrong."

Some of my favourite arias are sung by curlews: and they are available to everybody.

SIMON BARNES

● *Devon Wildlife Trust, 35 New Bridge Street, Exeter, EX4.*

● **What's about:** *Birders — Waxwings percolating south from Scotland and the north east (Greater (Manchester, Colchester and Romford, Essex). Iceland gulls on Kent and Sussex coasts. Twitchers — A two-barred crossbill at Lynford, Norfolk. Two arctic redpolls in King's Forest, Thetford, Suffolk. Two penduline tits at Farlington Marshes, Hampshire. Details on Birdline, 0898 700222.*

Events in town

THIS WEEKEND

- **Jorvik Viking festival:** "Jolablot" (mid-winter Viking festival) begins today with three main events: "Vapnartak 91" — war gaming battles at Merchant Adventurers Hall, 10am-5pm, adult £1, child 50p; fireworks at Knavesmire, 7pm, free; International Music Night at Central Hall, University of York, 8pm, tickets £6.50.
York, today until late February. Box office: 0904 640277.
- **Clowns service:** Annual service during which a wreath is laid on the memorial to Joseph Grimaldi (1779-1837), father of the traditional clown; followed by a performance in the church hall.
Holy Trinity Church, Beechwood Road, Dalston, London E8, tomorrow. Service begins 4pm.
- **Saturday morning lecture:** In the second of his series of lectures on Dutch painters, John Bowen discusses Van Gogh.
Ashley Cinema, Poole Arts Centre, Poole, Dorset. Today 10.30am-12.30pm. Admission £3.50, students with card £1.75.
- **Chinese new year at Neal Street East:** Pre-new year (Feb 15) activities in the year of the goat begin with a question-and-answer workshop on Chinese horoscopes with expert Derek Walters.
5 Neal Street, Covent Garden, London WC2. Today 1-3pm. Free.

NEXT WEEK

- **National Trust lecture:** "Biddulph — the restoration of a Victorian garden" given by Dr Keith Goodway, garden historian and author.
Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1. Monday 6pm. Tickets £4.50 from the Festival Hall box office (071-928 8800)
- **No laughing matter:** "History Comes to Life" with actors taking the part of key figures involved in the development of anaesthetics and antiseptics.
Science Museum, London SW7 (071-938 800). Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 11.30am and 1.30pm. Museum admission: adult £3.50, child £1.75.

JUDY FROSHAUG

Chipping away a monumental task

The battle is on to preserve Britain's fast crumbling monuments to past glories, reports Simon Tait

Just south of Peterborough at Norman Cross on the A1, the bronze eagle on top of a 30ft column was a familiar waymark for motorists. Few, however, would have realised that the bird marked the site of a military depot where 1,770 French prisoners from the war with Napoleon died between 1797 and 1814. The Entente Cordiale Committee set up the memorial in 1914, a few days before the French and British allied in the "war to end wars".

Last October, the great eagle became another statistic for heritage conservationists when it was stolen from its eyrie.

Highways, market places, town squares, cemeteries, even open fields are hosts to monuments, ranging from high art to low humour, from monarchs to pets. Many of the monuments are crumbling to nothing, others are barely recognisable under layers of bird lime. Hundreds have been damaged by vandals and thousands defaced with graffiti. All the stone ones have been eaten into by acid rain and the carbon monoxide from motor exhausts. Others, like the Norman Cross eagle, have disappeared altogether.

"The whole country is a neglected, open air art gallery," says Jo Darke, author of *The Monument Guide to England and Wales*, to be published by Macmillan this spring. "People take monuments for granted, like familiar, if useless, furniture. There has been no comprehensive survey of what we have, and in a lot of cases it is not clear who the owners are. Consequently it is not easy to establish responsibility."

Local authorities are usually responsible for the upkeep, but which local authorities? "With all the boundary changes and overlapping, it's not clear whose job it is," says *Ian Leith, the curator of the* Royal Commission on Historical Monuments in England.

Ms Darke, Mr Leith and a group of historians and conservationists are behind the foundation of the Public Monuments Association, to be launched in the summer. A "founding forum" last week was attended by officials of such bodies as English Heritage, the Imperial War Museum and the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, none of which has responsibility, or the resources, to maintain the monuments.

No one knows how many monuments there are, but Mr Leith estimates that there are beween 2,500 and 5,000, not counting about 30,000 war memorials. "The extraordinary thing is that no one seems to have officially noticed them," he says.

In some cases the responsibility is clear, but the task overwhelming. Portsmouth, for instance, has a series of monuments on its promenade set up to commemorate the dead of battles whose wounded arrived in ships there between 1850 and 1900. The battles and heroes they mark have become obscured by the ravages of salt air and traffic fumes, "but the cost of putting them right would be fantastic. You can't fairly lay that at the door of Portsmouth council," Ms Darke says.

In some cases, local communities have taken the initiative. Ms Darke, however, advocates a pool of information to enable local authorities to help each other.

Local authorities may not even be aware of what they have. Last *September Sarah Lakin, a landscape* architect, joined Westminster city council, which is probably the best endowed with monuments. She was given the task of creating an inventory of the outdoor statuary in the borough. "The first memorandum I found in the file showed that we had only one, Eros, the Shaftesbury memorial in Piccadilly Circus," Ms Lakin says. She discovered that Westminster was actually responsible for 80, including Cleopatra's Needle on the Victoria Embankment. The council has given her £70,000 for repairs. "The environment department says the worst cases cost about £7,000, so maybe I can get ten done," she says.

Monuments are coming into their own again. Stoke-on-Trent is commissioning pieces from sculptors such as Dhruva Mistry and Ondre Nowakowski. "While that is highly laudable," Ms Darke says, "there are old monuments in Stoke which are ignored, like the one to Arnold Bennett outside Burslem town hall."

Thousands of less artistically eminent monuments are historically important. There are pieces by Rysbrack, Chantrey and Westmacott from the 18th and 19th centuries, and 20th century artists such as Katherine Scott, Gilbert Baize, Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and Elisabeth Frink. New developments are including works of art which constitute monuments, but unless action is taken these will be the stone carcases of the future.

Ms Darke believes we have to consider what to some conservationists is the unthinkable: replicas. When Eros was taken down and restored four years ago strong representations were made for it to be replaced by a cast, with the original preserved safely indoors.

The new association will take on the huge task of cataloguing the monuments, raising public awareness, creating an archive, and educating councils in maintenance. They must also try to find sources of money for all this.

- *For details of the Public Monuments Association, contact Catherine Moriarty at the Imperial War Museum on 071-416 5353.*

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CREATIVE Eye, the annual selling exhibition of work by Britain's best designer-makers, has built its reputation on the calibre of the craftspeople taking part. Now in its third year, it is an excellent place to glean fresh interior decorating ideas and find people who will make pieces to order.

Neil Bottle, a textile designer, left college less than two years ago and is already making a name for himself. His designs are individually hand-painted, hand-stencilled or hand-printed on silk of various weights, from the finest crêpe and chiffon to slubbed Indian dupion silk. Wall hangings, cushions and folding screens, embellished with his architecturally inspired images, are on show at Creative Eye, along with ties, scarves and waistcoats.

"My work is inspired by the process of ageing and the aesthetics of decay," he says. "I love the rich colours of Italian frescos, the layers of paint worn by the passage of time." Mr Bottle's work is sold at London shops and galleries, including Contemporary Applied Arts, the Contemporary Textile Gallery and the South Bank Crafts Centre.

Susan Nelson, one of Britain's few women stonemasons, is showing a delicately carved stone fireplace and sculptural mirrors. She also makes garden benches, gargoyles, memorial stones, dining tables and smaller pieces, such as lamp bases and bookends.

Ten years ago Ms Nelson was awarded a grant from the Training Opportunities Scheme (Tops) to study stonemasonry at London's Building Crafts Training School. To gain further experience in handling stone she worked for Axtell Perry Symm Masonry, an Oxford firm engaged in restoring Magdalen Tower and work on other Oxford colleges.

An increasing restlessness with restoration work prompted her to become self-employed and develop her ideas for using stone in contemporary contexts. "I try to make things which suit a particular place. Although I am influenced by the medieval use of stone, I try to combine this with more modern elements. The sculptural aspect of stone fascinates me. As a carving material, it is much more exciting than wood because it has more depth: you can create shadows, for example."

Factory, a partnership set up by Dean Harvey and Adela Sadler six years ago, designs and makes contemporary furniture at a National Trust workshop in Wiltshire. The finely made pieces have appeared at previous Creative Eye exhibitions, and this year sees the introduction of free-standing cabinets and two hatstands in cherrywood and nickel plate.

The furniture is made to commission, taking about four months from concept to finished product. The pieces are well thought out, and rely more for their appeal on their quality of line and finish than fancy decoration. Most pieces are understated, but with meticulous attention to detail.

"I find the combination of different materials interesting," Mr Harvey says. "We are introducing lead, frosted glass and silver-leaf to some of our newer designs, and it's fascinating to see how the different surfaces react.

"We do not see ourselves as 'artists'. We aim to make furniture that is comfortable and visually interesting. Our pieces tend to have an architectural quality in structure so our ambitions lie in the direction of fitting out interiors — from reception desks to nightclubs."

NICOLE SWENGLEY

- *Creative Eye, Chelsea Old Town Hall, King's Road, SW3. Feb 8-9, 9.30am-6.30pm. £4. Neil Bottle, 3 Winterstoke Way, Ramsgate, Kent (0843 592953). Susan Nelson, Folly Bridge Workshops, Thames Street, Oxford (0865 727203). Factory, Stableyard, Coleshill, Wiltshire (0793 763829). Contemporary Applied Arts, 43 Earlham Street, WC2. Contemporary Textile Gallery, 6a Vigo Street, W1, South Bank Crafts Centre, Festival Hall, SE1.*

Silk success: the "aesthetics of decay" inspire Neil Bottle

SHOPAROUND
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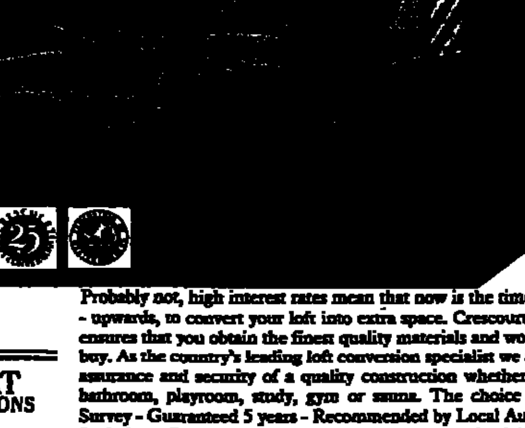

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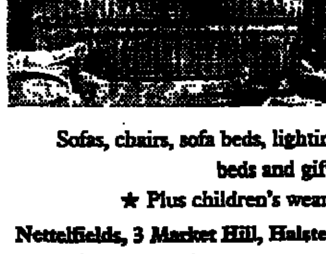

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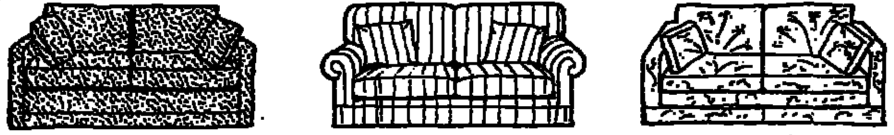

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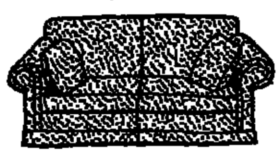

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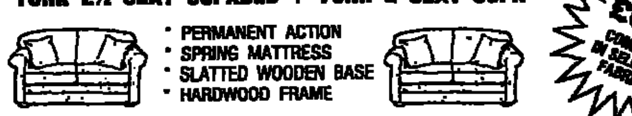

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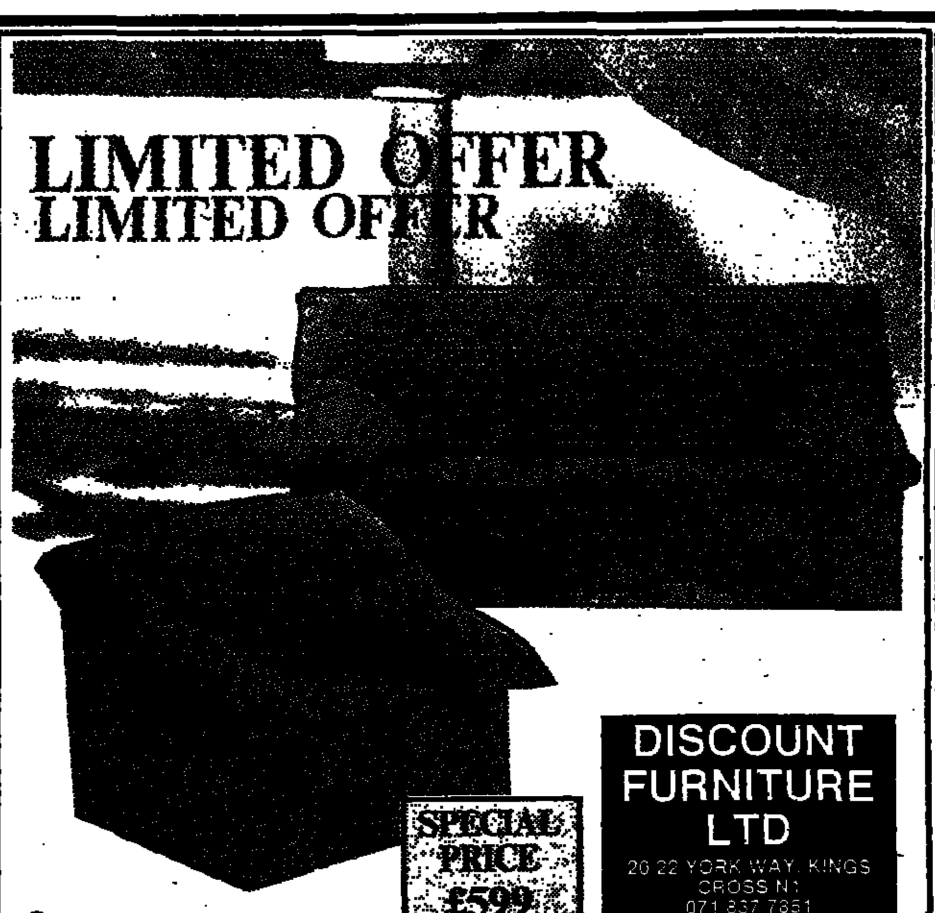

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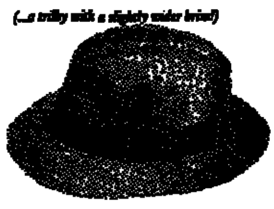

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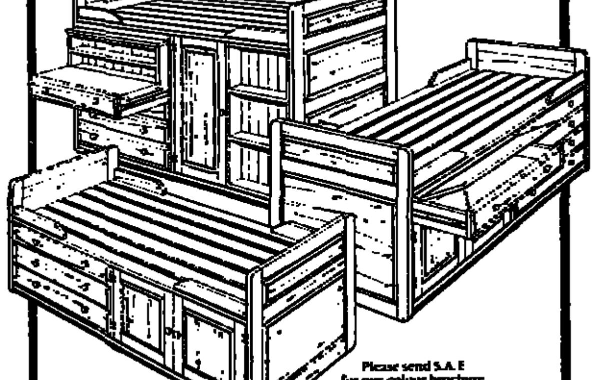

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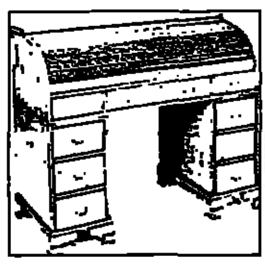

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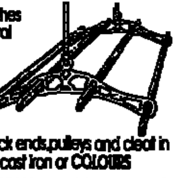

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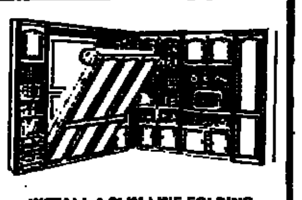

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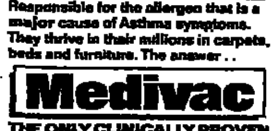

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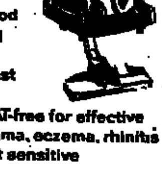

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Good old times are coming back

Sarah Jane Checkland previews next week's exhibition in London of fine Breguet watches, to be sold in April by Habsburg in Geneva

The smartest thing in male armwear is not the Rolex Prince watch, which flashed below shirt cuffs during the materialistic Eighties, but the more discreet Breguet. The reason for this "insider pleasure", as the connoisseurs call it, is less a conspiracy by its wearers than cultural jingoism by the British. Although the clock-making dynasty of Breguet (pronounced Breggae) merits a wordy chunk in the French reference book *Larousse*, the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* ignores it, crediting, mainly, Thomas Mudge for crucial watch inventions.

Nevertheless, apart from supplying time-pieces to the dramatis personae on both sides of the French Revolution and Napoleonic wars, including Marie-Antoinette, Napoleon and Wellington, Abraham Louis Breguet (1747-1823) revolutionised the world's concept of time.

Until he came along, watches were fragile and erratic mechanisms, shaped like golf balls. Having condensed his mechanism into the disc we know today, significantly reducing the number of parts, Breguet transformed the watch into the ultimate sophisticated device, and introduced the concept of precision timing.

Innovations included "shock-protection" and perfecting a self-winding (automatic) mechanism, improved only in the Twenties. He also found ways of eliminating inaccuracies caused either by temperature or the watch's position.

By replacing conventional Roman numerals with refined Arabic alternatives, and devising the now classic Breguet hands, their tips decorated with a "moon", he also introduced a clarity of design which still appeals.

The name Breguet became a byword for dependability. Jules Verne gave Phileas Fogg a Breguet to accompany him around the world in 80 days, while the French novelist Stendhal compared Breguet clocks favourably to that "wretched machine, the body we live with".

The Breguet company still produces about 4,000 watches a year at its Swiss factory, the main outlet being Paris.

Usually, only between five and ten vintage Breguets (that is, 20 years old or more) come up for auction each year. Having milked its considerable private contacts for two years, however, the Geneva-based auction house of Habsburg has hired out no less than 204 examples. "The majority are from collectors, not trade," says the expert Simon Bull. "Many had been in families for 250 years." By the end of the exercise, which involves 12 preview exhibitions worldwide (a record in itself), a wordy catalogue and an exhibition in London next week, Habsburg hopes to make £6 million.

The house of Habsburg

HAVING enjoyed being a "blue-eyed kid on the block" when he launched his Geneva-based auction company with the stamp expert David Feldman in 1987, Archduke Geza von Habsburg (above), the great-great-grandson of Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria, was then criticised by the art press when his company's practices of "advancing money, guarantees and subsidising clients" fell flat, along with its Impressionist sales.

Now that he has parted with Mr Feldman, halved his staff to 46, and dropped fields such as Impressionism, the archduke hopes horology, jewellery and Old Masters will lift his shares from their recent low of SFr40.

Will the house of *Habsburg* rise again at the rostrum?

S.J.C.

On sale will be Napoleon Bonaparte's small gilt-bronze travelling clock with quarter-repeating and almanac calendar, the first carriage clock ever made. Bought 25 days before the general's departure on his Egyptian campaign in 1798, it backs up the story that Napoleon invented the carriage clock. His clock eventually became the standard model for its modern equivalent. Bought by Napoleon for Ffl,500, and now estimated at about £200,000, the clock was brought in the day experts were completing their cataloguing.

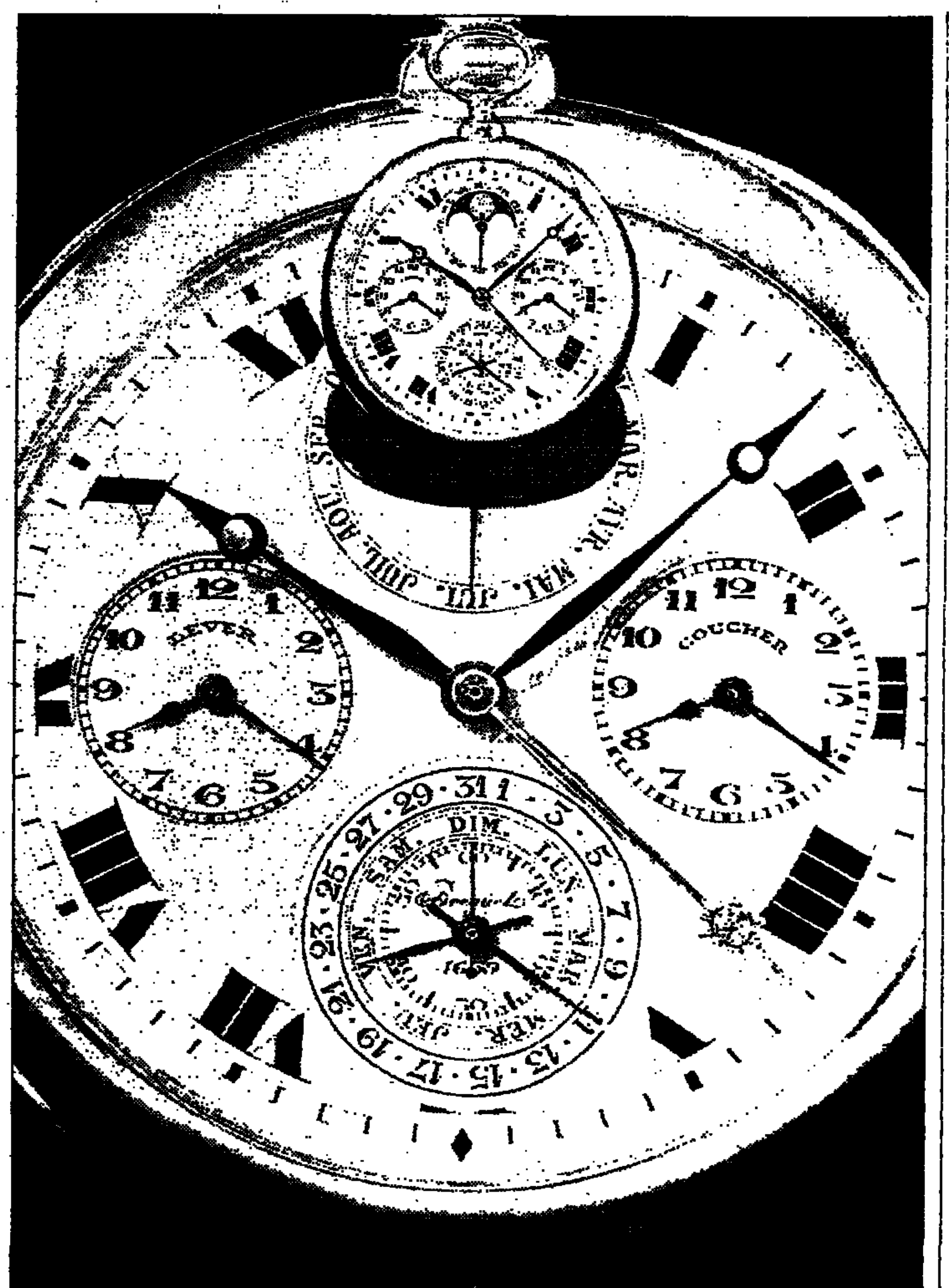
A repeating watch of 1803, bought by Lady Elgin for her husband when they were prisoners of war in Paris, weighs in with an estimate of £22,000-plus. Royalty is represented by a gold hunting-cased watch decorated with a plume of feathers, bought by "Son Altesse le Prince de Galle" in 1803 and now estimated at £20,000.

The list includes a miscellany of ambassadors, such as "Monsieur l'Ambassadeur Turc", who was assassinated in 1809, and a "Monsieur Spies", who was attached to the Russian Embassy in 1835. His watch, estimated at £28,000, has a secret compartment with a miniature on ivory of a young woman.

Also included are a "unique Art Deco rectangular platinum gentleman's self-winding wrist-watch" from the collection of Sir Percival David, estimated at £50,000, and one valued at £60,000 owned by the concert pianist, Artur Rubinstein.

The auction also includes two Sympathique clocks, which Breguet hoped would bring "the greatest promotion of our fame and fortune". These devices entail both a clock and a watch; the latter can be regulated by placing it in a niche at the top of the clock.

The first model was made by the company in the 1840s for the banker Francis Baring. The second, just completed in an 18-carat gold case "by 36 craftsmen over 15,000 hours", is a promotional exercise which, the company says is "the most complicated example ever created by the firm".



Beauty of Breguet: Habsburg hopes that watches like this one will bring in £6 million at auction next April

One excuse for ignoring Breguet could be the sparse biographical details available. He was born into a Huguenot family in Neuchâtel in Switzerland in 1747 and set up shop in Paris. Having just been noticed by Louis XVI, Breguet then had to flee the Terror back to Switzerland, returning to Paris in 1795. Napoleon made him clockmaker to the navy. We know, also, that Marat's sister made watch hands for him, and that he kept remarkable records for each watch, vitally important in establishing authenticity today.

The auction also reveals that the Breguet company has, at least stylistically, lost its way of late. The shield-shaped wristwatch number 604, sold in 1978 to "Son Excellence Moulay Abdallah", and now estimated at about £8,000, comes complete with a horrible set of gentlemen's personal *orfèvrerie*, such as cigarette lighter and cufflinks. A group of ladies' watches (at £800 to £2,800), made in the 1980s, is choked with ornament. Finally, the Sympathique watch cum clock made for the auction may be craftsmanlike, but it is at root a folly which the founder would not have tolerated.

● *Breguet exhibition, Feb 6-9, Chaumet, 178 New Bond Street, W1 (071-493 5403). Auction, April 14, Habsburgs (010 41 022 7380222), Hotel des Bergues, Geneva.*

Review

● **Up beat:** Collection of nearly 900 photographs by and of Cecil Beaton is up for grabs, with the British museum the strongest claimant. The original prints satisfied £125,331 tax on the estate of Eileen Hose, Beaton's secretary.

Cross purpose: Hortense Anda-Bührle defended the name of her father, the late arms manufacturer and art collector Emil G. Bührle, at the opening of an exhibition of his Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings at the Royal Academy. She said her father had supplied far more weapons to the Allies than to the Nazis in the second world war.

Head start: The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art has spent £40,000 (£15,000 from the Henry Moore Foundation) on a sculpture, *Present Time*, by Anthony Gormley, moulded in lead from the artist's body.

Preview

● **Monday:** Silver and jewels at Spencer's, Retford, Nottinghamshire, 10.30am.

Tuesday: Ceramics, pictures and antiques at Nationwide Anglia, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, 10.30am. *Objets de vertu* at Bonhams, London, 11am.

Tuesday-Wednesday: Books at Sotheby's, London, 11am daily. Arms and militaria at Wallis & Wallis, Lewes, Sussex, 11am daily.

Tuesday-Friday: Three-day sale of cigarette cards, autographs and postcards organised by Vennett-Smith, Nottingham, Tuesday and Wednesday 1pm, Thursday noon.

Friday: First viewing day for the contents of the Polly Peck headquarters, 42 Berkeley Square, to be sold by Phillips on February 19: viewing 10am-4pm, to Tuesday.

● *Henry Spencer, 20 The Square, Retford, Nottinghamshire (0777 708633). Nationwide Anglia, Tabernacle Road, Wotton-under-Edge, Glocestershire (0453 844733). Sotheby's, New Bond Street, W1 (071-493 8080). Wallis & Wallis, West Street Auction Galleries, Lewes, Sussex (0273 480208). T. Vennett-Smith, Sherwood Conference Centre, Nottingham (0602 830541). Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, W1 (071 629 6602).*

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Thu 7 Feb 8.00	**LA FLUTE FRANCAISE** Judith Hall (fl) Elinor Bennett (harp) Andrew Ball (pno) Timothy Walker (gtr) John Brearley (vla). Flute solos, duos, trios by Ibert, Messiaen, Poulenc, Honegger, Fauré, Jolivet, Debussy etc. £7, £5.50, £3.50 Basil Douglas Artists' Man.
Fri 8 Feb 8.00	**ELLIOTT CARTER** Ursula Oppens (piano) Beethoven Fantasia, Op. 77; Carter Sonata; Night Fantasies; Schumann Sonata No. 2 in G minor Op. 22. *£7, £5.50, £3.50* *South Bank Centre*

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Borodin .... Symphony No. 2
Mussorgsky .... Songs and Dances of Death
Prokofiev .... Romeo and Juliet (excerpts)
Prokofiev .... War and Peace Suite

Soloist **NIKITA STOROJEV**

YURI TEMIRKANOV

conducts

WEDNESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 7.30 pm

Prokofiev .. The Love of Three Oranges (Suite)
Prokofiev .... Piano Concerto No. 3
Stravinsky .... The Firebird Suite (1945)
Stravinsky .... The Fairy's Kiss

Soloist **DMITRI ALEXEEV**

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Sunday 3 Feb. 11.30 am	**BORIS BERESOVSKY** piano. Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. First Prize-Gold Medal-Tchaikovsky Competition 1990, Moscow. Rakhmaninov: 5 Preludes from Op. 23; Etudes-tableaux Op. 39 No. 4; Lullaby; Mendelssohn: 3 Songs without Words inc. The Bee's Wedding; Balakirev: Islamey-oriental fantasy (1869). £5 inc coffee etc.
Sunday 3 Feb. NB starting time: 4 pm	**SINE NOMINE QUARTET.** Festival of Switzerland. Mozart: String Quartet in C K465 "Dissonance"; Schoeck: Quartet No. 2 in C Op. 37; Schumann: Quartet in A Op. 41 No. 3. £8, £7, £6, £5 Festival of Switzerland Ltd
Monday 4 Feb. 7.30 pm	**KIM BAK DINITZEN** cello, **PAUL COKER** piano. Schumann: Adagio & Allegro Op. 70; Debussy: Sonata (1915); Britten: Suite No 1 Op. 72; Anders Nordentoft: Piece for Solo Cello (World Première) (1990); Shostakovich: Sonata Op. 40. £7, £6, £5, £4 Kantor Concert Management
Tuesday 5 Feb. 7.30 pm	**IAN HOBSON** piano. Schubert: 2 Impromptus D935 No. 1 in F minor, No. 3 in B flat; Schumann: *Sonata in F minor Op. 14 (original version)*; Beethoven: Diabelli Variations Op. 120. £9.00, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50 Norman McCann International Artists Ltd
Wednesday 6 Feb. 7.30 pm	**THOMAS HAMPSON** baritone, **GEOFFREY PARSONS** piano. Song Recital Series. Loewe: Der Wirthin Töchterlein; Erlkönig; Herr Oluf; Mahler: 5 Humoresken from "Des Knaben Wunderhorn"; Schumann: Dichterliebe Op. 48. £12, £10 (all others sold) HoM
Thursday 7 Feb. 7.30 pm	**EMMA JOHNSON** clarinet, **GORDON BACK** piano. Crusell: Intro & Vars on a Swedish Air; Brahms: Sonata Op. 120 No. 1; Poulenc: Sonata; Messiaen: Abîme des oiseaux from "Quatuor pour la fin du temps"; M. Taylor: 3 Humoreskes (1st perf); Lovreglio: Fantasia da Concerto on "La Traviata" themes. £8, £7, £6, £5 Woolwich Building Society
Friday 8 Feb. 7.30 pm	**THE ORLANDO CONSORT.** Early Music Series. Robert Harre-Jones c-ten/Charles Daniels, Angus Smith tens/Donald Greig bar. Philippe de Vitry & the Ars Nova. A celebration of the 700th anniversary of Philippe de Vitry's birth. Works by de Vitry/Machaut/Borlet/Pykini/[illegible]. £8, £7, £6, £5 Early Music Network
Saturday 9 Feb. 7.30 pm	**PIOTR ANDERSZEWSKI** piano. London Pianoforte Series. Sensational 21-year-old Polish pianist from the Leeds Piano Competition 1990. Beethoven: 6 Bagatelles Op. 126; Diabelli Variations Op. 120. £10, £8, £6, £5 HoM
Sunday 10 Feb. 11.30 am	**ISRAEL PIANO TRIO.** Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. Mozart: Trio in E K542; Schubert: Trio in B flat D898. £5 including programme & coffee/sherry/juice.
Monday 11 Feb. 7.30 pm	**SERGHEI YEROCHIN** piano. Prize of Honour, Santander Piano Competition 1990. Bach: Overture in the French Style BWV831; Mozart: Fantasia in D minor K397; Scarlatti: 2 Sonatas; Prokofiev: Sonata No. 6 in A Op. 82. £7, £6, £5, £4 Morgan Stanley International/Isaac Albeniz Foundation/Jane Gray
Tuesday 12 Feb. 7.30 pm	**MATS LIDSTRÖM** cello, **BENGT FORSBERG** piano. **STOCKHOLM CHAMBER BRASS.** Bach: Sonata in G minor BWV1029; Poulenc: Sonata (1948); Gareth Wood: Concerto for cello & brass quintet (1989); Karg-Elert: Sonata in A Op. 71 (1907). £8, £7, £6, £5 Jane Gray
Wednesday 13 Feb. 7.30 pm	**EMMA JOHNSON** clarinet, **GORDON BACK** piano, **GABOR ORMAI** viola (of Takács Quartet). Burgmüller: Duo Op. 15; Mozart: Trio in E flat K498 "Kegelstatt"; Schumann: Märchenerzählungen Op. 132; Weber: Grand Duo Concertant. £8, £7, £6, £5 Sponsored by the Woolwich Building Society
Thursday 14 Feb. 7.30 pm	**JILL GOMEZ** soprano, **ROGER VIGNOLES** piano. Song Recital Series. Viva España! A celebration of Spain in song including Bizet, Ravel, Schumann, Wolf, Falla & Granados, and culminating in a musical journey through the folksong culture of Spain. £11, £9, £7 (all others sold) Jane Gray
Friday 15 Feb. 7.30 pm	**LONDON FORTEPIANO TRIO.** Early Music & Baroque Series. Mozart Programme. Second of 3 concerts. Mozart: Piano Trio in B flat K502; Trio in G K496; Fantasia in C minor K396; Little Gigue K574; Trio in E K542. £8, £7, £6, £5 Early Music Network

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Tomor 3 Feb 7.30pm	**LSO — CHILDHOOD** — London Symphony Orchestra Michael Tilson Thomas cond, Cynthia Buchan, Eileen Hulse, Hugh Hetherington, *Andrew Gallacher, Rosemary Hardy,* Stephen Richardson soloists, London Voices, Maurice Sendak drawings Christopher Nowell producer Janáček: Nursery Rhymes Knussen: Higglety Pigglety Pop! (U.K. premiere of complete opera: semi-staged) £25 £18.50 £14 £11 £8 £5 *LSO Ltd* *SPONSORED BY THE HOWARD GILMAN FOUNDATION*
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Sat 9 Feb 7.45pm	**OPERA DOUBLE BILL** City of London Sinfonia, Richard Hickox cond. Juliet Booth, Nan Christie, Elizabeth Gale, *Catherine Pierard, Adrian Thompson, Richard Jackson,* Jonathan Best soloists Henk Schut director Salieri: Prima la musica, poi le parole Mozart: The Impresario. Both works are semi-staged and sung in English £16 £13 £11 £8 £5 *SPONSORED BY JOHN LAING CONSTRUCTION LTD*
Sun 10 Feb 4.00pm	**BARRY TUCKWELL 60TH BIRTHDAY RECITAL** Barbican Celebrity Recitals Series, Barry Tuckwell Wind Quintet, Richard Rodney Bennett piano Arnold: Three Shanties Barber: Summer Music Rossini: Andante and Theme with Variations Poulenc: Sextet Mozart: Fantasia in F minor, K608 (arr Tuckwell) Nielsen: Quintet Op 43 £10 £7.50 £5
Sun 10 Feb 7.30pm	**LSO — CHILDHOOD** London Symphony Orchestra Michael Tilson Thomas cond Katia and Marielle Labeque pianos Jeremy Budd treble Debussy: La Boîte à Joujoux Saint-Saëns: Carnival of the Animals Tchaikovsky: 'Legend' (When Jesus Christ was but a Child) and 'Autumn' from Sixteen Children's Songs; Suite No 2 in C £25 £18.50 £14 £11 £8 ONLY *LSO Ltd* *SPONSORED BY NIKON UK LIMITED AND NIKON AG ZURICH*
Mon 11 Feb 7.45pm	**JAMES GALWAY GALA RECITAL** Phillip Moll piano Beethoven: Serenade, Op 8 (arr Boehm) Schubert: Variations on a Theme from *Die Schöne Müllerin* Hindemith: Sonata Gaubert: Sonata No 3 Doppler: Fantaise pastorale hongroise £80 (incl. buffet reception) £14.50 £12.50 £10 £8.50 £5 *IN AID OF CO-OPERATION IRELAND*
Wed 13 Feb 7.45pm	**ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA — MOZART 200** Sir Colin Davis cond José-Luis Garcia, Stephanie Gonley violins Joan Rodgers sop Mozart: Symphony No 29 in E flat, K184; *Concertone in C for two Violins*, K190; Exsultate Jubilate, K165 Serenade in D, K203 £15 £13 £11 £9 £8 £4 *SPONSORED BY PIONEER HIGH FIDELITY (G.B.) LIMITED*

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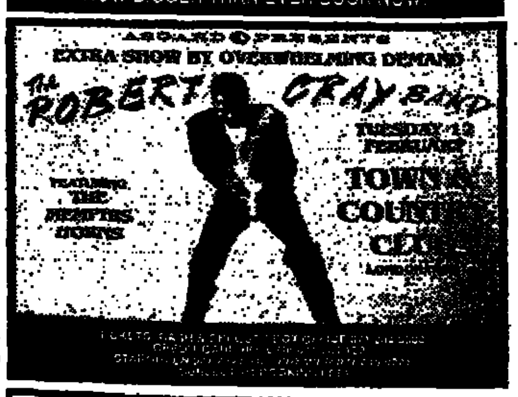
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ALAN WELLER

Chris Isaak: "I am as much in awe of Bing Crosby as I am anybody. Oh God, what a voice . . . I wanna sound like that."

Lynched, and now mobbed

'Six foot one, 184 pounds, chiselled features and an Elvis-style quiff.'

David Sinclair on guitarist Chris Isaak

That was a fine cup of coffee which the record company press officer had given me. Damn fine. I reached for my trusty companion, a battered Sony Pressman stereo cassette recorder. Pressing the switch to record, I placed it on the long wooden table between me and the tall, dark stranger who had recently drifted into town. Six foot one, 184 pounds, chiselled features and an Elvis-style quiff. I was impressed with the cut of his gib.

His name was Chris Isaak and he came from San Francisco. His record "Wicked Game" had risen to worldwide prominence after the film director David Lynch featured it in the soundtrack of *Wild at Heart*. A moody, windswept ballad propelled by a languid, twanging guitar, Isaak's song was perfect off-the-peg material for bolstering the odd, mordant atmosphere of Lynch's work.

But something told me that Isaak was not one of the so-called "Lynch mob": a coterie of actors and musicians who seemed always on hand to do their master's bidding. "David Lynch was a critical factor in making this song a hit. He chose to use it. Nobody else thought it could be a hit," was as much as the laconic Isaak would allow. But like his latest chart success "Blue Hotel", which was featured in the soundtrack of Lynch's *Blue Velvet*, it was material that had already been recorded and released irrespective of its movie potential.

There is an element of diplomacy in his response to the matter of *Twin Peaks*: "I'm usually out working when it's on." I later deduced that Isaak's music is born of an older tradition still.

Sitting in the chair next to him was a Gibson J-200 acoustic guitar, a handsome number with an intricately decorated scratchboard. Isaak likes to keep an instrument close to hand. He confided to me that he even makes a habit of playing the guitar in bed, in the dark, before going to sleep. Apparently his girlfriends do not mind the practice, but it seemed significant that he is not a married man.

Isaak had begun our interview by bursting into song, and now, as talk drifted on to the talents of Bing Crosby, he grabbed the guitar again and began crooning a verse of "True Love". "I am as much in awe of Bing Crosby as I am anybody. Oh God, what a voice. When I hear 'Sweet Leilani' by Bing Crosby . . . that big, rich, deep voice, unique style, beautiful melodies. Wow, this guy can really sing. I wanna sound like that."

Isaak was born 34 years ago of Italian-German parents in Cemetery Lane, Stockton, California, a town described by John Steinbeck as the Fat City. "It had the world's biggest skid-row for a while; the dives and the strip halls and burlesques. If they make movies and they want it to look like the Fifties they still come to Stockton, even now."

A fork-lift truck driver by trade, Isaak's father pursued an enthusiasm for boxing which rubbed off on Isaak and his brothers. "We always had a punchbag hanging from a tree out back. My dad and brothers all broke their noses. I got my nose broken about seven times, that's why it curves, because there's no cartilage in there. But nobody ever knocked me down. My ears came out really unscathed. I didn't want to lose my teeth, but hey, keep your mouthpiece in, you'll be OK."

Isaak still works out on a variety of punchbags when he is at home, and he likes to surf. He does not smoke cigarettes, has never touched marijuana and hardly ever drinks. He has a vast collection of tie-pins: more than 60 were in his suitcase when we met. The worst vice that he would admit is a tendency to be "pretty moody", although "I hope I'm smart enough to avoid people when that happens."

He continued boxing at college, graduating with a degree in communications arts and English in 1980. Then he won a scholarship to a Tokyo university, where he studied Japanese history and escorted tourists round the Toie Film studios.

On his return to California in the early Eighties he set about forming his first group. However co-operative these ventures might have been, he was always the man with the plan. "Democracy makes great countries, but lousy art. Good art needs someone with vision in charge."

He released three albums between 1985 and 1989 — *Silvertone*, *Chris Isaak* and *Heart Shaped World* — all of which were heaped with critical plaudits, and he made modest progress with a B-movie film career, eventually playing a cameo role in Jonathon Demme's film, *Married to the Mob*.

Now, at last, the door has swung open and the big guy has come in from the cold. What difference has it made to his life? "You get to stay at hotels with fancier soaps, which I put in my luggage and take home. I've got a collection in California of those tiny little soaps from every hotel I stay in. So I never buy soap."

● Chris Isaak *will be touring Britain next month.*

Flight of fancy that is hard to swallow

Red Byrd
Queen Elizabeth Hall

THERE is a good idea here trying desperately to get out. The grounded Red Byrd is an ensemble — sorry, a "project" — concerned with "realising both early and contemporary vocal music in the ways most attractive to today's audiences". What this means is singing Monteverdi with microphones, electric guitars and the embarrassed casualness of a new act in a 1960s folk club.

The microphones are the first problem. They ought to bring the audience into closer contact with the physicality of singing, but Monteverdi's music achieves that intimate, luxurious fleshliness by other means: by a relish of different paces and registers, by decoration, by exaggerating the tones and rhythms that people adopt when they are speaking of anguish, excitement or pleasure.

None of these sorts of vocal rhetoric are amplified by electronic assistance; rather, they are countered. To take an obvious example, microphone singing demands a generally even projection, requiring carefully prepared and practised changes of volume, whereas Monteverdi's music requires a vital, instant variability.

Red Byrd also shoot themselves in the wing with their slack, apologetic platform manner, even if they have good reason to feel apologetic for some of the music they are offering. Their main problem is that there is rather little contemporary repertory for voices with strings ancient and modern (the group Tragicomedia on lute, viola da gamba and harp as well as electric guitars).

Hence an active programme of commissioning, which so far has produced a beautiful, simple and poignant *Lament* by Barry Guy but also three much feebler efforts. I except Brian Elias's *Song* for soprano, singing from the Song of Songs, which was ruined by a half-hearted attempt to stage it, with a lady who reclined on a duvet while surreptitiously keeping hold of her music.

Much the most successful item was Frank Martin's *Trois poèmes de la mort* for trios of male vocalists and electric guitars, which explores a dark time-tunnel between François Villon and the Beatles, and which was forcefully delivered by the singers from behind masks.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Schlesinger on British cinema

"I get irritated by the British cinema and don't feel in the least bit disloyal by working in America. My roots are here, my home is here and whenever I can I'll work here. But I'm not going round with a begging-bowl."

John Schlesinger, interviewed in The Sunday Times tomorrow.

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TELEVISION REVIEW

Flummoxed by the gnomes of Gwent

Lynne Truss turns her eye to noddies, the flaying of cultural icons, and slow food, in *Class by Class*, *Without Walls* and *Matters of Taste*

Reaction shots from interviewers are known in the trade as "noddies", and are — as everyone knows — generally filmed after the interview is concluded. "Time for the noddies," say enthusiastic production crews, as they turn their camera and lights to a new position. Thereupon the interviewer, if he is worth his salt, dutifully adopts a variety of concerned expressions, to be utilised later as a means of disguising jumps in the editing. A noddy can be anything from a meditative pursing of the lips to the sort of exaggerated (but polite) "help I'm splitting my sides" noiseless laugh that, for some reason, I tend to associate with Melvyn Bragg.

Ray Gosling's reaction shots are nothing like this. In **Class by Class** on *Thursday nights (Channel 4), his noddies* are splendidly eloquent, yet they seek to convey just one simple message: "I. Am. Stumped". Wide-eyed and dishevelled, Gosling raises his hands to his face, pushes the flesh into folds, and grimaces his deep perplexity. Even when his perennial question "What class do you think you are?" is answered utterly *predictably (and there are, let's face it,* only a handful of responses he can reasonably expect), Gosling mimes that he can hardly believe his ears. "*Working* class?" he repeats slowly. "Really?" And a large symbolic "?!?!" forms itself in the air above his head.

This consistency of performance must make life in the cutting-room rather difficult. "Now, what reaction-shots have we got?" "Well, there's the whole gamut here. I can do you poleaxed, baffled, nonplussed or mind-boggled. Oh, and there's a spare flummoxed somewhere, left over from last week." But at the same time it certainly makes for highly interactive television. With Gosling's response to information being the living embodiment of "Run that past me again, squire", watching *Class by Class* is rather like being at the panto, only instead of "It's behind you! It's behind you!", I find myself yelling excitedly, "It's right in front of you! It's right in front of you!".

Gosling is trying to pin down what constitutes class identity, by interview*ing generations of the same family* (a doctor's family one week, a printer's family the next), and puzzling over the apparent contradictions in their social make-up. This is a good idea, but unfortunately he asks all the wrong questions. Is class about money? About the sort of job you do? The kind of clothes you wear? The fact that the *answer to all three is self-evidently* "No, of course not" does not dissuade him from his mad endeavour. Rather the reverse: he seems inspired by the challenge. He walks along, pretending to eat chips from a bag, and savours his negative findings, recapping them at dictation speed. "So *(pause)*. If it isn't money *(chews chip thoughtfully)*. What is it?"

This week his subject was an ex-miner who is now chairman of Gwent county council. How, mused Gosling, could this man consider himself working-class? The miner's daughters were professionals, living in nice semi-detached houses with pianos and garden furniture, yet they perversely planted gnomes in the garden to signal allegiance to their class origins. That proved too much for Gosling, who crouched furtively in the long grass and exclaimed "Ah! Gnomes!" like a man who was beginning to lose his grip. Later in the same programme, in an attitude of defeat, he demonstrated the depth of his perplexity by scratching his head — not as a careless gesture but with a thoroughness that was awe-inspiring. When Ray Gosling scratches his head, apparently, he starts at the forehead, works doggedly towards the crown, and then descends right to the nape of the neck.

What else? On **Without Walls** (Channel 4), Tom Paulin daringly insisted that Virginia Woolf is unequal to the myth that surrounds her. Fair enough, I say. She was charged with having once employed the word "lovelily" — a pretty serious indictment, in literary terms. But there was more than this. The programme was in the *J'Accuse* series, in *which the reputations of cultural icons* are hoiked from their monuments and publicly flayed. Woolf was revealed as a rabid anti-Semite, a dyed-in-the-wool imperialist, a dreadful snob, and even (though this may have been just an unintentional by-product of dramatisation) an execrable typist.

A problem with the *format of J'Accuse* is that the iconoclast sets out in the guise of the romantic lone voice, as though no one had ever before articulated the words "What's so great about Virginia Woolf?", or even so much as formed the thought. But once he starts to back up this view by calling on other authorities, he is obliged to reveal that he is not a lone voice after all, and that in fact umpteen literary critics have already written books called things like *Virginia Who?* and *Bloomsbury: Don't Make Me Laugh*. In the course of building his case, he paradoxically makes it look less and less original, until he has done his job so well that the viewer virtually despises him as a Johnny-come-lately.

Part of the function of television, I always think, is to legitimise one's own experience. So I was glad to see that on **Matters of Taste** (Channel 4) Jancis Robinson presented this week's programme — extolling the virtues of "slow food" as opposed to "fast food" — sitting alone at a dining table laid for four. How reassuring to know that other people practise this custom of pretending they have somebody to talk to while they wolf down their solitary evening meal. And *how brave of Jancis to expose her private* life in this way on prime-time television. Well done, Jancis. Her only misjudgment was in pouring tiny quantities of wine into the three other glasses — an unnecessary extravagance. Jancis might like to consider following my own rule: to fantasy dinner-parties, you should only invite people who wave away the wine, explaining that they have to drive home afterwards.

"What are we all dashing for, in our hermetically sealed, lonely little worlds?" she asked at the end, decrying our habit of hopping about next to the microwave, shouting "Faster! Faster!", and gulping down convenience food with all the ceremony of a hoover sucking up fluff. The "lonely little worlds" bit was slightly cruel, I thought, but I decided against hurling my last fish finger at the screen in protest. I knew from experience that it would involve a bloody tussle with the cats to get it back.

Class act: Ray Gosling, master of the splendidly eloquent noddy

The London Auction Market – now the good news

DESPITE the depressing headlines which you may have read recently about the collapse of auction prices, *the middle market* for art, antiques and collector's items continues to thrive at Bonhams.

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While the froth may have been skimmed from the values placed on some Impressionists and the crazier end of the contemporary market, we thought it timely to remind potential vendors of other valuable works of art and antiques that they can still reach eager buyers and achieve good prices through Bonhams. We are now accepting entries for our Spring auctions, and we look forward to hearing from you.

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at our Gleneagles sale in August 1990.

SALES IN SCOTLAND

Sotheby's annual Spring sale of Scottish & Sporting Pictures & Silver will be at Hopetoun House, Edinburgh on 23rd April 1991.

If you would like to include items in this sale, the closing date for entries is 22nd February 1991.

Enquiries:
In London - Richard Southgate 071-408 5386
In Edinburgh - John Robertson or
Nicholas Linzee Gordon 031-226 7201
In Glasgow - Anthony Weld Forester 041-221 4817

Our next sale of Scottish Paintings is on 5th February at the Royal Scottish Automobile Club, Glasgow.

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BBC 1

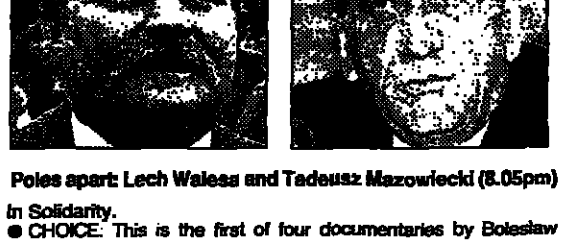
7.00 **News**
7.10 **Open University:** Pure maths — Maps
7.35 **Babar.** Animated version of the classic children's story.
8.00 **News 8.10 Eggs 'n' Baker.** This week's food and music show includes singer Lindy Layton and group That Petrol Emotion. Plus a visit to chef Anton Edelmann **8.50 Cartoon**
9.00 **News 9.05 Going, Live!** Sarah Greene and Phillip Schofield present the children's magazine. Special guests include sports commentator John Motson, *EastEnders* star Jan Graveson, rock singer Chris Isaak and fashion expert Charlie Greene **12.12 Weather**
12.15 **Grandstand** introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is (subject to alteration): 12.20 Skiing: the world alpine championships featuring the women's giant slalom from Saalbach, Austria; 12.50 News; 12.55, 1.25 and 1.55 Racing from Chepstow; 1.10 Cricket: highlights of the second day's play in the fifth Test between Australia and England in Perth; 1.40 Rallying: Steve Rider presents highlights of the Monte Carlo Rally; 2.10 Rugby Union: live coverage of the game at Murrayfield between Scotland and Wales followed at 4.00 by highlights of the Ireland v France match at Lansdowne Road, Dublin; 4.40 Final Score
5.10 **News with Moira Stuart. Weather**
5.30 **Regional News and sport.** Wales (to 5.50) Wales on Saturday
5.35 **Stay Tooned!** Tony Robinson examines the life and times of cartoon favourite Daffy Duck
5.50 **Jim'll Fix It.** Charity's most famous knight, the benevolent Sir Jimmy Savile, continues to make dreams come true for young and old. (Ceefax)
6.25 **'Allo 'Allo!** Cheerily predictable French resistance farce. René is reluctantly made editor of the local newspaper, which has been turned into a propaganda sheet by Von Klinkerhoffen. Starring Gorden Kaye and Carmen Silvera. (Ceefax)
6.55 **The Paul Daniels Magic Show.** Magic and illusions from the miniature maestro, aided by Debbie McGee and special guests. (Ceefax)
7.40 **Bergerac: My Friend Charlie.** Having resigned from the Jersey force and hopped it to France, Jim is back in the Channel Islands as a private eye. But the new format has done little to enliven a ponderous series. In tonight's episode Charlie Hungerford is given an offer he finds difficult to refuse, while Jim is hired by an American to "abduct" her father and send him back to Florida, where he will stand trial for her mother's murder. (Ceefax)
8.30 **Don't Wait Up.** Sitcom starring Tony Britton and Nigel Havers as father and son doctors, tonight cultivating aristocracy with disastrous results. (r). (Ceefax)
9.05 **News with Martyn Lewis.** (Ceefax) Sport and weather
9.35 **Midnight Caller: Three For The Money.** Polished American series starring Gary Cole as an ex-cop turned late-night DJ Jack Killian, who fights crime from his studio. A family reunion for Jack, his brother and estranged father begins badly and gets worse when it develops into a mystery involving a stolen statue and murder. (Ceefax)

A cloakroom encounter: Grace Jones and Ruby Wax (10.25pm)

10.25 **The Full Wax.** The madcap humour of American comedienne Ruby Wax either delights or falls flat on its face, according to taste. Tonight's ingredients include advice to Jennifer Saunders before a *Wogan* interview and discovering extrovert model and singer, Grace Jones, in the ladies cloakroom
11.00 **Film: Broken Angel** (1988). A high school dance becomes a night of horror, when a young girl is brutally murdered. Following the tragedy Chuck Coburn (William Shatner) discovers his daughter has vanished, and sets out to find her. Going boldly where no parent has gone before, he embarks on a trail that leads him into street violence and drugs. Easily forgettable made-for-television melodrama, directed by Richard T. Heffron
12.35am **Dave Brubeck: Symphonique.** With a career spanning some 30 years, Dave Brubeck has earned himself a glowing reputation as both a jazz performer and composer. In this concert, filmed at the Place des Arts in Montreal, he is joined by another generation of his legendary Quartet and accompanied by the Montreal Symphony Orchestra. Old favourites include "Summer Music" and "Take The A Train" (r)
1.25 **News and weather.** Ends at 1.35

BBC 2

8.55 **Open University**
2.45 **Mahabharat.** Episode 36
3.25 **Holiday Outings.** A fly-drive holiday to Melbourne (r)
3.35 **The Farm That Time Forgot.** A portrait of a Dorset farm which has retained the medieval field system (r)
4.05 **Film: A Star Is Born** (1954). The second and best of several cinema versions of the story of a young singer's rise to stardom which coincides with her husband's descent into alcoholism. The stars, Judy Garland and James Mason, are in peak form and there are memorable numbers from the team of Harold Arlen and Ira Gershwin. Written by Moss Hart and directed by George Cukor
6.35 **Late Again.** Highlights from this week's *The Late Show*
7.20 **News and weather**
7.35 **Wainwright's Coast to Coast Walk.** The second leg of the late fell walker's hike takes him and his companion Eric Robson from Shap Abbey to Keld in Swaledale (r)



Poles apart: Lech Walesa and Tadeusz Mazowiecki (8.05pm)

8.05 **In Solidarity.**
● CHOICE: This is the first of four documentaries by Boleslaw Sulik being shown over successive weekends which tell the story of Polish democracy in the 12 months after the collapse of communism. A Polish camera crew followed events both private and public and gained access to many of the key players. The result is a fascinating if disillusioning account of how the euphoria of the new liberal regime was progressively soured by division and intrigue and mounting economic chaos. Solidarity was only solid as long as there was a common enemy. As soon as communism collapsed, the movement disintegrated in bitter rivalries. The films bring out particularly the growing friction between the chalk-and-cheese figures of Lech Walesa, the rough-hewn hero of the shipyard strikes, and Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the earnest Catholic intellectual installed as Poland's first democratic prime minister.
9.05 **French and Saunders.** More sketches from Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders (r)
9.35 **John Sessions' Tall Tales.**
● CHOICE: Sessions is a sharp and clever performer, but there are times when his language is too rich to be consumed in one mouthful. The word-play can be so dense and intricate that it is almost impossible to take in the full range of meaning. As you applaud yourself for having spotted one verbal gem, three others have gone rattling by. And he does tend to name drop, as when he works in Dürer, Bosch and Michaelangelo in the space of about 20 seconds. Thankfully he tells a good story as well, the latest of which is a about a randy middle-aged painter who finds himself playing a bit part in an episode of *Bergerac* filmed in St Ives. Devotees of that series will relish the Session versions of Jim, Charlie and Barney, but the best impersonation is of Sean Connery explaining how he gave up James Bond to become a serious artist
10.00 **Rhythms of the World: Tudo da Samba — Everything Makes for a Samba.**
● CHOICE: There is an awful lot of samba in Brazil and *Rhythms of the World* gives a fair sample of it, with the help of three distinguished practitioners in Jorge Ben, Gilberto Gil and Caetano Veloso. In between performance items there are dollops of social and cultural history explaining how samba was brought to Brazil by African slaves and spread outwards across the country from the shanty towns of Rio de Janiero. Anthony Wall's film demonstrates Samba's many uses, one of which has been to celebrate Brazilian triumphs on the football field in the winning of three post-war World Cups. But the samba can also be the basis for anything from a delicate love song to a political protest. The true heart of samba is the carnival, where rough and raucous dance music provides the inspiration for elaborate floats and dazzling costumes. (Ceefax)
10.55 **Twin Peaks.** (r). (Ceefax)
11.40 **The Film Club: Kanal** (1956, b/w). Polish director Krzysztof Kieslowski introduces the second in director Andrzej Wajda's famous second world war trilogy. Set during the 1944 Warsaw uprising, the film tells how a group of Polish partisans who are pursued and trapped in the sewers by Nazi soldiers. It offers a stark and disturbing recreation of the claustrophobic atmosphere of wartime Poland. Stars Teresa Izewska, Tadeusz Janczar and Emil Kariewicz. Ends at 1.20am

ITV

6.00 **TV-am with Gulf News** presented by Maya Even and, from 7.00, by Mike Morris and Lorraine Kelly
8.05 **Hey Hey It's Saturday!** Cartoons for younger viewers.
9.25 **Motormouth.** Andy Crane, Gaby Roslin and Neil Buchanan host another programme of cartoons, competitions and pop music. Special guests include Rick Astley and Kenny Thomas
11.30 **The ITV Chart Show.** The *Vintage Video* slot features soul singer Bobby Brown
12.30 **Saint & Greavsie.** Ian St John and Jimmy Greaves look ahead to Wednesday's friendly international between Cameroon and England at Wembley. They also preview tomorrow's televised league match between Manchester United and Liverpool
1.00 **News and weather 1.05 LWT News and weather**
1.10 **Grand Sportsmasters.** Dickie Davies hosts another edition of the sports quiz in which contestants compete for the "Grand Sportsmaster" title
1.40 **World Sport Special.** A round-up of the week's major sporting stories
2.10 **The Day.** A look at 24 hours of particular importance to one person (r)
2.15 **International Indoor Speedway.** High-speed action from the London Arena
3.10 **Film: Silver Lode** (1954). Tense western about a respectable citizen accused of murder the day before his wedding who has three hours in which to clear his name. Starring John Payne, Lizabeth Scott and Dan Duryea. Directed by Allan Dwan
4.45 **ITN News and weather**
5.00 **Results Service with Elton Welsby**
5.10 **LWT News and weather**
5.15 **Beverly Hills, 90210.** Adventures with the Walshes, a midwestern family trying to adjust to what passes for normal life in California. Brandon finds his work at the café means he has less time to work on his school studies. Close to failing his history exam, he hits upon what appears to be the ideal solution — cheating his way to an "A". (Oracle)
6.10 **Catchphrase.** Roy Walker hosts the high-tech computer quiz game
6.40 **Blind Date.** Cilla Black helps more couples get together for a special date. (Oracle)
7.40 **Inspector Morse: Masonic Mysteries.** Satisfyingly crafted murder mystery starring John Thaw as the opera-loving detective. Morse is arrested on suspicion of murder and even the loyal Sergeant Lewis begins to think his boss might be guilty. Morse's own life is put in danger when he tries to clear his name by finding the true killer. With Kevin Whately (r). (Oracle)
9.40 **News, sport and weather 10.00 LWT News and weather**

In the company of Michael Aspel: Natasha Richardson (10.05pm)

10.05 **Aspel & Company.** Michael Aspel's guests are Sir David Attenborough, Frankie Howerd and Natasha Richardson
10.50 **Film: Barbarosa** (1981) starring Willie Nelson and Gary Busey. When a former Texas Ranger shoots and injures a Mexican peasant leader during a fight, the man's followers vow to take their revenge. A stylish western from the Australian director, Fred Schepisi
12.30am **Film: Murders in the Rue Morgue** (1971) starring Jason Robards, Herbert Lom and Christine Kaufmann. Tongue-in-cheek thriller, based on a Poe story, about the actors in a small theatre company becoming real-life murder victims. Directed by Gordon Hessler
2.10 **Sledge Hammer!: It Happened What Night?** Starring David Rasche as the inept detective
2.40 **American College Football.** West Virginia v Syracuse
3.40 **Backstage**
4.05 **The Hit Man and Her.** Pete Waterman and Michaela Strachan introduce disco music from some of the country's top clubs.
5.05 **ITN Morning News.** Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 **The Art of Landscape.** Images of the natural world set to a musical background
7.00 **Trans World Sport.** International sports news and interviews
8.00 **The Channel 4 Daily.** A special edition with the latest news from the Gulf
9.15 **Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line.** A review of the week's races, plus a look ahead to this afternoon's meetings
9.25 **Sing and Swing.** Original performances by the jazz stars of the Thirties and Forties
9.30 **Listening Eye: Signs of Our Times — Transmitting Deaf Culture.** The series which examines aspects of life in the British deaf community reports on the importance of television to the deaf. Film and video help to overcome the difficulty of preserving a culture which is based on sign language and, although the number of programmes for the deaf remains small, this is an area in which ITV, Channel 4 and the BBC cooperate to provide the best possible service. (r). (Teletext)
10.00 **Matters of Taste.** Food and drink programme presented by Jancis Robinson (r). (Oracle)
10.30 **Film: A Song To Remember** (1945). Hilariously scripted biopic of the Polish composer, Frederick Chopin (Cornel Wilde). Forced to leave Poland because of his anti-Tsarist views, Chopin moved to Paris, where he formed friendships with fellow composer Franz Liszt (Stephan Bekassy) and George Sand (Merle Oberon). Directed by Charles Vidor
12.35 **Black and White.** An animated story about the perils of conformism
12.45 **Channel 4 Racing from Sandown Park.** Brough Scott introduces live coverage of the 12.55, 1.25, 2.00, 2.35 and 3.10 races
3.30 **Film: Bedtime for Bonzo** (1950 b/w). Ronald Reagan stars in the comedy about a psychology professor and his fiancée (Lucille Barkley) who steal the college laboratory's chimpanzee. It was the sort of movie gleefully seized upon by Reagan's opponents when he was running for political office but he always had the last laugh. Directed by Frederick de Cordova
5.05 **Brookside Omnibus** (r). (Teletext)
6.30 **Right To Reply.** Oliver Reed's behaviour on *After Dark* is criticised; and viewers in the Moss Side area of Manchester claim misrepresentation in Granada's *The Firing Line*
7.00 **The World This Week.** Includes a reports from South Africa on the Areas and Land Act and on the rise in violence. Followed by Weather

Pioneer crossing: Per Lindstrand and Richard Branson (8.00pm)

8.00 **Adventures: Branson — Across a Fiery Sky.**
● CHOICE. The time was when bold souls would venture where man had never gone before and the world would only hear about it at second hand some time after the deed was done. Today's adventures have become a television opportunity, with the cameras installed to capture every step. Hot from the cutting room, including footage only recently recovered from a capsule in the Canadian Arctic, comes the story of how the blond hero Richard Branson, and his Swedish colleague Per Lindstrand, made the first crossing of the Pacific in a hot air balloon. Knowing the successful outcome of the trip, even if the balloon was blown well off its original course, detracts a little from the tension. But there was always the danger that the balloon would ditch fatally in the middle of the ocean if this thankfully did not happen there were other hazards along the way including the loss of two gas canisters and a period of nine hours without radio contact. (Oracle)
9.00 **LA Law: December Bride.** The Californian lawyers tackle more personal and legal problems. (Teletext)
10.00 **Small Stages: A Matter of Chance.** The series which brings productions from the fringe theatre circuit to a wider audience continues with Vladimir Nabokov's elegant tale of lost love. *A Matter of Chance*, adapted by Roger McGough and performed by the Kosh Dance Theatre Company. Elena (Sian Williams) is a Russian emigrant who boards the Nord Express to travel to Paris in search of her husband. Elena is unaware that he is now a cocaine addict and is working in the dining-car of that very train. With Christian Flint and Mark Hopkins.
11.30 **Channel 4 News.** The latest news from the Gulf war
11.50 **After Dark.** Open-ended discussion between journalists and victims of the press. Among the guests is Lord Lambton

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am Cricket: The Ashes Tour Live 10.00 Cricket Highlights 10.30 Jayce and the Wheeled Warriors 11.00 The Bionic Woman 12.00 Beyond 2000 1.00pm Combat 2.00 WWF Wrestling Challenge 3.00 Cool Cube 5.00 Chopper Squad 6.00 Parker Lewis Can't Lose 6.30 The Addams Family 7.00 Free Spirit 7.30 In Living Color 8.00 China Beach 9.00 Designing Women 9.30 Murphy Brown 10.00 Unsolved Mysteries 11.00 Cricket Highlights 12.00 The Untouchables 1.00am Pages from Skytext 2.50 Cricket. The Ashes Tour Live

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra satellite.
● The following schedule may be subject to alteration.
News on the hour
5.30am European Business Today 6.30 The Reporters 9.30 Newsline 10.30 Motor Sports News 11.30 Health Circuit 12.30pm Fashion TV 1.30 The Reporters 2.30 International Business Report Week 3.30 Health Circuit 4.30 Motor Sports News 5.00 Live at Five 5.30 Fashion TV 6.30 The Reporters 7.30 International Business Report Week 8.30 Health Circuit 10.30 Fashion TV 11.30 The Reporters 12.30am International Business Report Week 1.30 Health Circuit 2.30 Those Were the Days 3.30 International Business Report Week 4.30 Motor Sports News

SKY NEWS

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
● The following schedule may be subject to alteration.
News on the hour.
5.30am European Business Today 6.30 The Reporters 9.30 Newsline 10.30 Motor Sports News 11.30 Health Circuit 12.30pm Fashion TV 1.30 Saint-Saëns's Samson et Dalila 4.30 Concert: Solti/Barenboim/ Schiff 6.30 The Reporters 7.30 The American Ballet Theatre at the Met 10.30 Jazz. Talmage Farlow 11.30 The Reporters 12.30am International Business Report Week 1.30 Health Circuit 2.30 Those Were the Days 3.30 International Business Report Week 4.30 Motor Sports News

SKY MOVIES

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Showcase
8.00 Goal! (1966) The film of the 1966 World Cup Finals in London
10.00 Babar: The Movie (1989): Cartoon version of the books about Babar
12.00 How to Marry a Millionaire (1953): Lauren Bacall, Marilyn Monroe and Betty Grable star in this comedy about three models
2.00pm Escape to Victory (1981): Prisoners-of-war form a football team
4.00 Hero at Large (1980): An aspiring actor is exploited by two ambitious politicians
6.00 Adventures in Babysitting (1987): A quiet night babysitting turns into a riotous chase across Chicago
7.40 Entertainment Tonight
8.00 Red Scorpion (1989): A Soviet agent is sent to Africa to murder a rebel leader
10.00 Porky's 2: The Next Day (1983): High-school students come up against the Ku Klux Klan
11.35 You Can't Hurry Love (1986): Life on the Los Angeles' singles circuit
1.15am Party Camp (1986): Fun and frolics in an American summer camp
2.50 Dead Easy (1982): Three friends attempt to break into the New York club scene
4.15 All's Fair (1988): Fast-food employees play wargames to see who wins promotion. . Ends at 5.45

EUROSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Children's Programme 7.00 Fun Factory 8.00 Saturday Alive 5.45pm Yachting 6.00 Cycling 7.00 Indoor Soccer 8.00 Waterskiing 9.00 Luge 9.30 Boxing 10.30 World Cup Today 11.30 Speedskating 12.00 Motorsport 1.00am Handclimbing

SCREENSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
7.00am Kick Boxing 8.00 World Snooker Classics 10.00 US College Football 12.00 Stop — Mud and Monsters 1.00pm Rallycross 2.00 NBA Basketball 4.00 Powersports International 5.00 Spain Spain Sport 5.15 US Pro Ski Tour Slalom 6.00 Ice Racing World Championships 7.00 World of Champs 7.30 Hippodrome 8.00 Weekend Live Motor Sport: Sunbank Daytona 24 Hours 9.00 Weekend Live Golf: US PGA 11.00 Pro Box 1.00am Weekend Live Motor Sport: Sunbank Daytona 24 Hours 2.00 US PGA Phoenix Open 4.00 US Pro Boxing 5.30 French Rugby League

MTV

● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

LIFESTYLE

● Via the Astra satellite.
12.00 Johnny Ringo 12.30pm The Bill Dana Show 1.00 The Joan Rivers Show 1.50 He Shoots! He Scores! 2.45 Dixon's Photo Show 3.00 Wrestling 4.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 8.00 JSTV 10.00 Saturday Night Special 12.00 Tonight's Top Five 12.30am Video Vote 4.00 Last Call

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
12.25pm The General Died at Dawn (1936, b/w): An American mercenary embarks on a mission to bring down a Chinese warlord
2.20 And Then There Were None (1945, b/w): Ten people are invited to a remote island and are murdered one by one
4.00 Samaritan: The Mitch Snyder Story (1986): Martin Sheen plays a Vietnam veteran helping the country's homeless
6.00 Howard the Duck (1986): Howard is forced to help save the Earth
7.45 The Film Charts

8.00 The Naked Gun (1988): Leslie Nielsen plays hapless Lt Frank Drebin
10.00 The Serpent and the Rainbow (1988): An anthropolgist brushes with voodoo and black magic in Haiti
11.40 And God Created Woman (1987): Starring Rebecca DeMornay
1.20am Eddie Murphy — Raw (1987): A show recorded at New York's Felt Forum. Ends at 2.50

THE SPORTS CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
10.00am Snooker 12.30pm Texas Championship Rodeo 1.30 Racing Today 2.00 Tuff Trax 3.00 Sportstalk 3.30 Motor World 4.00 American Sports Cavalcade 5.00 American Wrestling 6.00 On Wheels 7.00 NHL Ice Hockey 8.00 The American Superbowl 10.00 Scottish Football Magazine 11.00 Racing Today 11.30 American Football

THE POWER STATION

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
7.00am Twenty-one hours of rock and pop

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RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 5.00am Jenny Costello 7.00 The Bruno and Liz Breakfast Show 10.00 Dave Lee Travis 1.00pm Adrian Juste 2.00 Classic Albums. Foreigner 4: Foreigner 3.00 The Saturday Sequence with Richard Skinner 7.00 The Saturday Rock Show with Alan Freeman 10.00 In Concert: Eurorock '90 11.00-2.00am John Peel

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 4.00am Dave Bussey 6.00 Graham Knight 8.05 Ronnie Hilton with Sounds of the Fifties 9.00 Brian Matthew presents Sounds of the Sixties 10.00 Anne Robinson 12.00 Gerald Harper 1.30pm Pull the Other One with David Frost, Ken Dodd, Frank Carson and Leslie Crowther (r) 2.00 Robin Ray on Record 3.00 Garry Anderson 4.45 David Shepherd at the console of the Compton Organ at the Plough Inn, Great Munden 5.00 Cinema 2 with Charles Nove 5.30 Music by . . . Jerry Goldsmith 6.00 Bob Holness Requests the Pleasure 7.00 Jazz Score 7.30 Saturday Gala Night: BBC Concert Orchestra Tour of Germany 1990 9.00 Max Jaffa Trio (r) 9.30 Easy Does It 10.00 The Radio 2 Arts Programme with Sheridan Morley 12.05am Cinema 2 (broadcast at 5.00pm) 12.30-4.00 Andrew Lane with Night Ride

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service: Newsdesk 6.30 Morning Edition: Breakfast show for the family with Jon Briggs, incl news on the half-hour and hour and 7.05, 8.05, 9.00 Sport 9.02 On Your Marks, incl 10.00, 11.00 Sport 12.00 News; Sport on 4 Plus 1 (broadcast on Radio 4 at 9.05am) 12.30pm Sports Call Phone-in quiz, with Danny Baker. Tel: 0345 909 693 1.30 Sport on 5 with John Inverdale Rugby Union. Five Nations Championship — Scotland v Wales from Edinburgh, Ireland v France from Dublin; Football: Barclays League — Chelsea v Arsenal, Spurs v Leeds, Nottingham Forest v Crystal Palace, incl second-half commentary; Cricket: Fifth Test between England and Australia from Perth; Racing from Sandown — (2.00) Agfa Diamond Steeple Chase, (2.30) Tote Jackpot Handicap Hurdle 5.00 Sports Report 6.00 As Radio 4 10.00 Sport 10.15 As Radio 4 11.00 Sport 11.10 World Service. People and Politics 11.40 The International Money Programme 11.55 Words of Faith 12.00-12.10am News and Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 5.00am German Features 5.35 News in German; Headlines in English and French 5.47 Press Review 5.52 Financial News 5.56 Weather and Travel News 6.00 Newsdesk 6.15 Gulf News Special 6.30 Londres Matin 7.00 News 7.15 Gulf News Special 8.00 News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 A Jolly Good Show 9.00 News 9.15 Seeing Stars 9.30 Financial News 9.39 Sports Roundup 9.45 Network UK 10.00 News 10.15 Letter From America 10.30 People and Politics 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Midi Magazine 11.59 Travel News 12.00 News 12.15pm Multitrack 3 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 News 1.15 Special Gulf Programme 2.00 News 2.15 Club 648 2.30 Sportsworld 3.00 News 3.15 Sportsworld (cont) 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 News and Features in German 4.59 Travel News 5.00 News 5.15 Sportsworld: Final Results 5.30 Londres Soir 6.14 News Headlines in English 6.15 BBC English 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 German Features 7.54 News in German 8.00 News 8.09 Seeing Stars 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 Meridian 9.00 News 9.15 From Our Own Correspondent 9.30 Write On . . . 9.35 Sports Roundup 10.00 Gulf News Special 11.00 News 11.15 A Jolly Good Show 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am The Ken Bruce Show 1.00 News 1.05 Play of the Week 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Cult Heroes 3.00 News 3.15 Society Today 3.30 From Our Own Correspondent 3.50 Write On . . 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Personal View 4.45 News and Press Review in German

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 2.10pm The A-Team 3.05-4.45 Film: The Oregon Trail 10.50 Up the Junction 11.40 Film: Starting Over 1.40 Hooperman 2.10 The Hit Man and Her 4.05-5.05 Indy Car World

BORDER

As London except: 1.40pm The Silk Road 2.40-4.45 Rugby League — Live: Wigan v Hull KR 10.45 Film: Play Misty for Me 12.45am Kojak 1.45 Phil Collins 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 CinemAttractions 4.30-5.00 Comics — the Ninth Art

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.40pm Ski Tips 2.10 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 2.40-4.45 Film: Artists and Models 10.45 Film: The Big Chill 12.45am Film: The World Is Full of Married Men 2.30 Hodson Confidential 3.00 CinemAttractions 3.30 America's Top Ten 4.05-5.00 American College Football

CHANNEL

As London except: 2.10pm Hard Time on Planet Earth 3.05-4.45 Film: Next To No Time 10.45 Film: Gambit 12.45am Film: The Spy Killer 2.05 America's Top Ten 2.35 CinemAttractions 3.05 American College Football 4.00-5.00 The American Century

GRAMPIAN

As London except: 1.40pm Abair 2.00 Coronation Street 2.55 Matlock 3.45-4.45 Wrestling 10.50 Film: Play Misty for Me 12.45am Kojak 1.45 Phil Collins 2.05 The Hit Man and Her 4.05 Comics — the Ninth Art 4.35-5.05 America's Top Ten

GRANADA

As London except: 1.40pm Matlock 2.35-4.45 Rugby League — Live: Wigan v Hull KR 10.45 Film: Play Misty for Me 12.45 Kojak 1.45 Phil Collins 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 CinemAttractions 4.30-5.00 Comics — the Ninth Art

HTV WEST

As London except: 1.40pm World Sport Special 2.10 The Young Riders 3.05-4.45 Film: Carry On Up The Jungle 10.45 Film: The Big Chill 12.45am Hardball 1.40 Film: Walk Up and Die 3.20 New Music 4.10-5.05 Raw Power

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: No variations

TSW

As London except: 1.40pm The South West Week 2.10 County Championship Rugby: Cornwall v Warwickshire 3.50-4.45 The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams 12.45am Kojak 1.45 Phil Collins 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 CinemAttractions 4.30-5.00 Comics — The Ninth Art

TVS

As London except: 2.10pm Hard Time On Planet Earth 3.05-4.45 Film: Next To No Time! 10.45 Film: Gambit 12.45am Film: The Spy Killer 2.05 America's Top Ten 2.35 CinemAttractions 3.05 American College Football 4.00-5.00 The American Century

TYNE TEES

As London except: 2.10pm The A-Team 3.05-4.45 Film: Her Favourite Husband 10.45 Film: Play Misty for Me 12.45am Kojak 1.45 Phil Collins 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 CinemAttractions 4.30-5.00 Comics

ULSTER

As London except: 1.40pm Superstars of Wrestling 2.40 The A Team 3.40 Munsters Today 4.10-4.45 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 10.45 Film: Play Misty for Me 12.45 Kojak 1.45 Phil Collins 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 CinemAttractions 4.30-5.00 Comics — the Ninth Art

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.40pm The A-Team 2.35 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 3.00-4.45 Film: The Legend of the Lone Ranger 10.45 Film: Charley Varrick 12.45 Philip Marlowe: Private Eye 1.45 Backstage 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00-5.00 Derrick

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Early Morning 9.25 Sing and Swing 9.30 Listening Eye 10.00 Class by Class 10.30 The Secret Life of Machines 11.00 Travelog 11.30 Remote Control 12.00 Jonathan Ross 12.30 Greyhound Racing 12.45 Racing from Sandown Park 2.10 Yr Alban v Cymru 4.10 Racing from Sandown Park 4.35 The Gulf Between Us 5.05 Brookside 6.30 Newyddion 6.45 Nos Sadwrn 7.45 C'Mon Midffild 8.30 Y Maes Chwarae 9.35 Film. Shock Corridor 11.30 C4 News 11.50 After Dark 1.50 Diwedd

RTE 1

Starts: 9.00am Scratch Saturday 1.00 Chips 1.50 News followed by The Undergrades 2.40 Film: The Adventures of Hal 3.45 Film: Come and Get It 5.30 To the Waters and the Wild 6.00 The Angelus 6.01 News 6.15 Mailbag 6.40 Talkabout 7.05 Star Trek: the Next Generation 8.00 Secrets 9.00 News 9.15 Budget Broadcast on Behalf of the Labour Party 9.20 Dallas 10.15 Kenny Live 11.35 Mother Love 12.35am News 12.40 Close

NETWORK 2

Starts: 12.00 Sign of the Times 12.30 News 12.34 Sports Stadium 6.05 Death Valley Days 6.30 Sul Thart 6.55 Nuacht 7.00 The Brain 8.00 News 8.05 The Scandal of Ulysses 9.00 Film: Sinful Davey 10.40 First View: Stephen 10.50 The Long Wake 11.10-12.55 Film: Somebody Killed Her Husband

RADIO 3

2.55-10.05am **Test Match Special** (MW only): Australia v England. Commentary on the second day's play of the fifth Test from Perth
6.55am **Weather; News Headlines** (FM only)
7.00 **Morning Concert** (FM only until 10.05am): Vivaldi (Violin Concerto in A: Academy of Ancient Music under Hogwood), Leigh (Music for string orchestra: LPO under Braithwaite); Saint-Saëns, arr Glennie (Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso: Evelyn Glennie, percussion, National PO under Wordsworth)
7.30 **News**
7.35 **Morning Concert (cont):** Scarlatti, arr Tommasini (The Good-Humoured Ladies: Concert Arts Orchestra under Irving); Schumann (Three Romances, Op 28: Yves Nat, piano); Prokofiev (Winter Bonfires: Prague RSO and Children's Chorus under Klima); Fauré (Les Djinns: Alex Bourbon Vocal Ensemble; Toulouse Capitole Orchestra under Plasson)
8.30 **News**
8.35 **BBC Scottish SO under Jerzy Maksymiuk performs Elgar** (Violin Concerto: Tamsin Little, violin)
9.30 **Saturday Review.** Record Review — Building a Library: Fauré's piano music by David Murray; new discs of turn-of-the-century orchestral and choral music reviewed by Jonathan Swain. 10.40 Record Release: Parry (Symphony No 3 in C. English: London Philharmonic Orchestra under Bamert); Pierné (Piano Quintet in D flat: Akiko Ebi, piano, Parisii String Quartet); 11.52 Richard Hickox talks about his recording career; 12.18pm Elgar (The Apostles, excerpt: Alfreda Hodgson, contralto, David Rendall, tenor, Stephen Roberts, bass, Bryn Terfel, bass, Robert Lloyd, bass, LSO and Chorus under Hickox)
12.55 **Words: Freedom.** Reflections on language by Ted Honderich
1.00 **News**
1.05 **Madrigals of Love and War:** Taverner Consort and Players perform Monteverdi (Altri canti di Marte; Ninfa che scalza il piede); Francesco Corbetta (Follies for guitar); Monteverdi (Su su, su pastorelli vezzosi); Corbetta (Chiacona); Monteverdi (Chi vol haver felice e lieto il core); Dario Castello (Sonata No 2 for violin); Monteverdi (Non havea Febo ancora; Volgendo il ciel) (r)
2.05 **BBC Symphony Orchestra** under David Atherton performs Haydn (Symphony No 100, Military); Shostakovich (Symphony No 8)
3.40 **Purcell** (Fantasias: No 6 in F; No 7 in C minor; No 8 in D minor; No 9 in A minor: London Baroque)
4.00 **Tuning Up:** Chris de Souza meets Sinfonye, a medieval group skilled in traditional, improvisational style
5.00 **Jazz Record Requests**
5.45 **Third Opinion:** Christopher Cook in Edinburgh looks at a week in the arts. Reviews of Scottish Opera's new production of *Fidelio*; Glasgow Citizens' staging of the Gospels; and *Philadelphia Fire*, a new book by American novelist John Edgar Wideman. Features on dramatists using history and on completing composers' unfinished works
6.30 **James Dick plays Weber** (Sonata No 2 in A flat, Op 39); Persichetti (Sonata No 2); and Prokofiev (Sonata No 7 in B flat, Op 83)
7.30 **Don Giovanni:** Mozart's work recorded at the 1990 Salzburg Festival with the Vienna State Opera Chorus and Philharmonic Orchestra: Samuel Ramey, baritone, as Don Giovanni; Feruccio Furlanetto, bass, as Leporello; Edita Gruberová, soprano, as Donna Anna; Dimitri Kavrakos, bass, as Commendatore; Gosta Winbergh, tenor, as Don Ottavio; Carol Vaness, soprano, as Donna Elvira; Susanne Mentzer, soprano, as Zerlina; and Natale de Carolis, baritone, as Masetto
10.55 **Issues** (r)
11.20 **Tuckwell Wind Quartet** performs Ibert (Trois pièces brèves); Hindemith (Kleine Kammermusik); Barber (Summer Music); and Arnold (Three Shanties): Peter Lloyd, flute, Derek Wickens, oboe, Robert Hill, clarinet, John Price, bassoon, Barry Tuckwell, horn
12.00-12.05am **News**
2.55-10.05 **Test Match Special** (MW only): Australia v England. Third day of the fifth Test from Perth

RADIO 4

● FM: Most scheduled programmes will be suspended to give news of the Gulf war.
The following schedule, on MW and LW, is subject to alteration:

5.55am **Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 The Farming Week 6.50 Prayer for the Day 6.55 Weather 7.00 Today,** incl 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.55, 8.58 Weather
9.00 **News**
9.05 **Sport on 4,** with Cliff Morgan
9.30 **Breakaway:** Ken Bruce with holiday and travel news
10.00 **News; Loose Ends:** Ned Sherrin and guests
11.00 **News; The Week in Westminster** with Robin Oakley, political editor of *The Times*
11.30 **From Our Own Correspondent**
12.00 **Money Box,** with Louise Botting and Vincent Duggleby
12.25pm **Just a Minute:** Hosted by Nicholas Parsons **12.55 Weather**
1.00 **News**
1.10 **Any Questions?** Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Bratton Clovelly, Devon, by Martin O'Neill, MP, Labour party defence spokesman; Sir Anthony Parsons, former British Ambassador to Iran; William Waldegrave, MP, the health secretary; and Mary Holland, journalist and broadcaster (r)
2.00 **News; Any Answers?** 071-580 4411. Listeners can call Jonathan Dimbleby with their views on the issues raised in *Any Questions?*
2.30 **Saturday Playhouse: February Mourning**
● CHOICE: It's conceivable (but only *just*), that Hannah Wakefield's novel is less headache-provoking than Judy Holland's radio version of it. The betting is a pound to a penny that unless you are the type who can summarise a Le Carré plot on the back of a postage stamp, you won't keep up with her as the American solicitor-turned-sleuth (Zoë Wanamaker) follows the whiff of red herrings along a trail that zigzags its way from England (a nuclear missile base) to West Belfast (an IRA nest) and back again. One thing you can't say about *February Mourning* is that it isn't the fastest-moving thriller broadcast on Radio 4 so far this year
4.00 **News; 40 Years On:** Veronica Cecil returns to Johannesburg to celebrate Foundation Day at Roedean — sister to the school in Brighton (r)
4.30 **Science Now**
5.00 **God and Caesar:** Mike Wooldridge talks to F.W. de Klerk, the President of South Africa, about the beliefs which have underpinned his political career (r)
5.25 **Week Ending:** A satirical review of the week's news (r) **5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather**
6.00 **News; Sports Round-Up**
6.25 **Citizens:** Omnibus edition
7.10 **Stop the Week**
7.45 **Classic Serial: The Forsyte Chronicles:** Episode 19 of a 23-part dramatisation of John Galsworthy's saga, narrated by Dirk Bogarde
8.45 **Kaleidoscope: Living History.** When actors are playing a real person, how close do they get, or want to get, to the character?
9.15 **Music in the Mind:** Brian Kay with best-loved melodies
9.50 **Ten to Ten,** led by the Rt Rev Richard Harries **9.59 Weather**
10.00 **News**
10.15 **Maclean — the Scottish Town in Australia:** Martin Macdonald traces the history of Maclean, a small town in New South Wales, and talks to its residents about their Gaelic-speaking forebears (r)
10.45 **Pen to Paper:** This week's anthology of new writing is on the subject of reminiscences
11.00 **Richard Baker Compares Notes** with leading flautists William Bennett and Philippa Davies (r)
11.30 **And Now, In Colour . . . Astronaut Training.** The comedy team with songs and sketches
12.00-12.30am **News,** incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m,1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m; FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Jazz FM 102.2. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9: Melody FM 104.9.

8.00 News

8.15 Open University: Animal Physiology — A Natural Approach

8.40 Playdays. The Playbus stops at the Dot Stop (r)

9.00 News 9.15 All God's Children. Final programme in the series looking at how different faiths in Britain co-exist

9.30 Prayers for the Gulf from Coventry Cathedral

10.00 A Vous la France! French for beginners (r). Wales: (to 12.30) See You Sunday 10.25 España Viva. Introduction to Spanish (r) 10.50 Step Up to Wordpower. Chris Serle offers advice on form-filling for adults who have difficulty in reading and writing (r) 11.15 A Way with Numbers. Practical help with everyday maths

11.40 Bazaar. Don Henderson is in the kitchen and DIY man Doug Smillie solves a winter warmth problem (r) 12.05 See Hear! Magazine programme for members of the deaf community

12.30 Country File. John Craven with a report on Britain's impoverished farmworkers. Wales: Farming in Wales 12.55 Weather

1.00 News with Moira Stuart followed by On the Record. Jonathan Dimbleby talks to Edward Heath, MP, about the war in the Gulf. Plus the consequences of the war for European politics and on the government's political standing 2.00 EastEnders (r) (Ceefax)

3.30 Snooker. First of eight days of coverage from the 17th year of the Benson and Hedges Masters competition opens with the games featuring Tony Meo and Gary Wilkinson and Doug Mountjoy and Steve James

5.05 The Clothes Show. Includes a feature on shopeholics and their obsession with clothes shops

5.30 Antiques Roadshow from St Ives, Cambridgeshire. (Ceefax)

6.15 News with Moira Stuart. Weather

6.40 Songs of Praise live from Dunblane Cathedral with representatives of all the main churches in Scotland

7.15 Only Fools and Horses. Last in the current series of John Sullivan's brilliant comedy, starring David Jason and Nicholas Lyndhurst. When the Nag's Head runs a "Guess the Baby Trotter's Name" competition, Rodney suggests Damien. Del is eagerly awaiting fatherhood and, when the latest in the Trotter line finally makes an appearance, he looks fit to burst with pride. (Ceefax)

8.05 Lovejoy: Who Dares, Sings. Delightful comedy drama with Ian McShane as the sort of dealer you never see on *Antiques Roadshow*: John Wells makes a guest appearance as Linden Walker, an old army pal of Tinker, who is eager to sell the family silver to pay for renovations to his pub. Hired to find suitable furniture, Lovejoy finds himself inadvertently involved in a burglary. (Ceefax)

Old army pals: John Wells, Dudley Sutton as Tinker (8.05pm)

9.00 News with Nartyn Lewis (Ceefax) and weather

9.35 That's Life! With Esther Rantzen

10.15 Mastermind presented by Magnus Magnusson from the Academy Room at Stonyhurst College. The specialist subjects are Puccini, Richard III, W.C. Fields and Thomas Hardy

10.45 Everyman: Catholics and Sex.

● CHOICE: Those who expect television documentaries to have topical pegs may be puzzled by the absence of one here. Indeed the cynical might say that since the Roman Catholic church's attitude to sex, and particularly birth control, has not changed since the 19th century why bother to *bring it up now?* The answer might be that while the hierachy has remained unbending, the same cannot be said for the flock. The papal encyclical of 1968, which reaffirmed the traditional ban on artificial contraception despite the recommendations of the church's own commission, seems to have been largely ignored. In these days of feminism, over-population and the pill, Catholics are tending to make their own minds. The film also reports on how childless couples in the United States are resorting to a new technique which ingeniously sidesteps the church's opposition to "in-vitro" fertilisation

11.35 Snooker. From Wembley Tony Gubba introduces the match between Stephen Hendry, the current world, UK and Benson and Hedges champion, and John Virgo

12.15am News

12.20 Clean State. Includes a report on how the poll tax is affecting Scottish education (r)

12.50 Mahabharat. Episode 36 (r)

1.30 News and weather. Ends at 1.40

7.00 Open University

12.00 Regional Political Programmes. Wales: See Hear!; Northern Ireland: Taste of Ireland

12.30 Scrutiny. Iain McWhirter presents news of the work of parliamentary committees this week. (Ceefax)

1.00 The New Explorers: Risk and Certainty. Nick Ross with an examination of the environmental risks which come with new technology

1.25 Animation Now. *Snowie and the Seven Dorfs.* A modern fairytale

1.35 There is Music in the Air. Elgar's Introduction and Allegro and the Cello Concerto performed by the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra conducted by Andrew Davis. Plus a discussion on the music between Michael Berkeley and composer William Mathias

2.30 Cricket: Fifth Test. Highlights of the third day's play between England and Australia from Perth, introduced by Richie Benaud

3.00 Film: The Way West (1967). Disappointing epic western with fine scenery and big stars, but a dull script. Kirk Douglas is stern Senator William Tadlock leading a wagon train from Missouri to Oregon in 1843. Others braving the hazards of the journey are Robert Mitchum, Richard Widmark and Sally Field. Directed by Andrew V. McLaglen

5.00 Rugby Special. Highlights of Scotland v Wales and Ireland v France

6.00 Ski Sunday. The world skiing championships from Saalbach, Austria, featuring the men's giant slalom

6.35 The Money Programme. Steve Annett reports on IBM's struggle to stay the top computer company; and Tessa Curtis discovers why the price of water will rise sharply this year

7.15 The Natural World: Portrait of the Planet.

● CHOICE: Man's inhumanity to the environment may be one of the great issues of our times but television has hardly ignored it. The justification for yet another discourse on the slaughtering of the whale population, the destruction of the tropical rainforests and the perils of global warming is that here the approach is that of the telescope rather than the microscope. Helped by a raft of statistics culled from the United Nations and other international agencies, it seeks to present not individual examples so much as an overall view. The treatment may be different but the message is the same and it is not an encouraging one. Trying to look for good news, the film points out that national parks and nature reserves have expanded tenfold in the past 40 years. But that bit of cheer is immediately followed by another statistic, that only 4% of the land area of the world is in protected areas. (Ceefax)

8.05 In Solidarity: The Break. Second of four documentaries chronicling the fortunes of Poland's first year of democracy.

9.00 Screen Two: Korczak (1990, b/w).

● CHOICE: The latest film of the veteran Polish director Andrzej Wajda, made as a co-production with the BBC, draws on the true story of a doctor looking after 200 Jewish orphan children in the Warsaw ghetto during the second world war. Janusz Korczak (superbly played by a favourite Wajda actor, Wojtek Pszoniak) was a quiet saint who repeatedly refused a safe haven for himself and, when the SS finally ordered the children to be deported, he fearlessly shared their fate. The film is shot in black and white in a simple, direct, quasi-documentary style which recalls the great Wajda trilogy of the Fifties which is being revived on BBC2 on Saturday evenings. Wajda's method is to start from the intimate and particular and work outwards so that the tragedy of the Polish Jews is represented not in sensational public acts but in small, private ones. The result is extraordinarily moving. (Ceefax)

A quiet hero of the Warsaw ghetto: Wojtek Pszoniak (9.00pm)

10.50 Film: They Shoot Horses Don't They? (1969). Harrowing and unusual film about a six-day dance marathon during the American depression. Gig Young won an Oscar for his performance as the compere talking the desperate contestants through their ordeal as each couple gradually begins to feel the strain of striving to be number one. By the end you may feel as drained as the contestants, chief among whom are Jane Fonda, Michael Sarrazin, Susannah York and Bruce Dern. Skilfully directed by Sydney Pollack

12.45am Rapido featuring Syndicut, Stereo MC and Robert Cray. Ends at 1.20

6.00 TV-am begins with Zoo Family 6.30 Cartoon Carnival 7.00 Dappledown Farm with Brian Cant 7.25 Thought For Sunday

7.30 Frost On Sunday. Among the guests are the American ambassador, Henry Catto and, via satellite, Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli deputy foreign minister

9.25 The Disney Club. The guests include the Manchester band Candy Flip

10.45 Link. Second part of an investigation into housing for the disabled

11.00 Morning Worship from Trinity Parish Church, Margate

12.00 Encounter. The story of Padre Luis Ortega, a Spanish Jesuit priest who worked with young disabled war veterans in poverty-stricken Nicaragua before his untimely death in a car accident last October

12.30 LWT News Weekend

1.00 News and weather

1.15 War in the Gulf with Brian Walden and Donald MacCormick

2.00 Charlie's Angels: Circus Of Terror. The crime-fighting trio join a circus which is under threat of sabotage (r)

2.55 The Match. Elton Welsby introduces live coverage of the game at Old Trafford between Manchester United and Liverpool. The commentator is Brian Moore, with comment from Gary Lineker

5.05 Bullseye. Darts and general knowledge quiz game show

5.35 Athletics: Pearl Assurance National Indoor Championships. Jim Rosenthal introduces coverage of the men's and women's AAA championships from RAF Cosford. Among those due to take part are Linford Christie, Sally Gunnell, Ade Mafe and David Sharpe

7.00 News and weather 7.10 LWT News and weather

7.15 Murder, She Wrote: Dead Heat. Relations and corpses continue to fill the life of Jessica Fletcher, crime writer turned crime buster. In this adventure she is has to get involved in the world of horse racing when her niece, Tracy, is suspected of murder. Starring Angela Lansbury. (Oracle)

8.05 You've Been Framed! Comic amateur videos

8.35 Agatha Christie's Poirot: The Tragedy at Marsden Manor. Poirot and Hastings arrive in a small Norfolk village to investigate a murder. Stories of ghosts abound and Poirot has to take them seriously when Jonathan Maltravers of Marsdon Manor is found dead beneath a supposedly haunted oak. More style than substance but David Suchet is terrific as the Belgian detective. (Oracle)

9.35 News and weather 9.55 LWT Weather

10.00 The New Statesman: Natural Selection. Rik Mayall as extremist MP Alan B'Stard runs true to form at his annual cocktail party, displaying contempt for his constituents and enraging a VIP. The bigwig refuses to let matters lie and threatens to steal all that B'Stard holds dear — including his wife. (Oracle)

Lighting a bonfire of disapproval: Brian De Palma (10.30pm)

10.30 The South Bank Show.

● CHOICE: A report on how Tom Wolfe's comic novel *The Bonfire of the Vanities* was turned into a film by Brian De Palma, a director best known for his exercises in sub-Hitchcockian horror. Boldly taking on a project which others had shunned, De Palma ran into flack for casting Bruce Willis as the English journalist and was attacked by the president of the Bronx for depicting the area as a den of crime. When the film was released in the United States it was roasted by critics as a shallow travesty. Forced to take all this on board, the programme can hardly be accused of being a puff for the British premiere which is due in April. It offers a useful guide to De Palma's approach to cinema, noting the influence not only of Hitchcock but of Orson Welles, both of which have found their way into *Bonfire.* Wolfe is interviewed as well but declines to join the chorus of disapproval for the celluloid version of his work. (Oracle)

11.35 The ITV Chart Show (r)

12.35am New Music. Celebrity interviews and pop videos

1.40 Indy Car Racing. The Miller High Life 200

2.40 Pick Of The Week. The best of last week's regional television.

3.10 Film: The Vampire Lovers (1970). Hammer chiller with erotic undertones about a lesbian vampire (Ingrid Pitt) sinking her fangs into the nobility. Peter Cushing, George Cole, Jon Finch and Kate O'Mara lend sturdy support. Adapted from Sheridan Le Fanu's *Camilla* and directed by Roy Ward Baker

4.50 Backstage

5.05 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel Four Daily with the latest developments in the Gulf

7.30 Dr Snuggles 8.00 The Bluffers 8.30 Bobobobs 9.00 Early Bird. Magazine about children's interests made by children

9.25 Lata in Her Own Voice. *Last Word.* Last of a six-part tribute to the world's most recorded singer and a living legend of Indian cinema, Lata Mangeshkar. (In Hindi/English with subtitles):

10.00 A Week in Politics — Second Reading. With Labour's defence spokesman, Martin O'Neill, on changes to Britain's war aims

10.45 Dennis. Cartoon adventures with the mischievous nipper

11.00 Over the Edge. A profile of Laura Johnson who raises money for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association (r)

11.30 Star Test. Revealing interviews with celebrities 12.00 The Waltons. Family saga of American country life 1.00 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea (b/w). Classic Sixties science fiction series

2.00 Film: The Winslow Boy (1948, b/w). Gripping drama based on the true case of a cadet (Neil North) expelled from the Royal Naval College for stealing a postal order. Convinced of his son's innocence, his father (Cedric Hardwicke) stakes all on taking his appeal to the top of the judicial system. Robert Donat plays the QC prepared to fight on the boy's behalf. Adapted by Terence Rattigan from his play and sympathetically directed by Anthony Asquith

4.10 How To Hunt a Mammoth. Animation from Czechoslovakia

4.25 A Hundred Acres. Wildlife in 100 acres of British countryside is observed over a six-month period from winter to summer (Teletext)

4.55 News summary and weather

5.00 Scottish Eye: Fowl Play. A new series of current affairs programmes with a Scottish slant begins with an investigation of the killing of rare and protected birds of prey. The culprits are the gamekeepers on some of Scotland's wealthiest estates, poisoning golden eagles, peregrines, merlins and hen harriers so that people might have more grouse and pheasant to blast out of the sky

5.30 Kersplat! Actors Kerry Shale and Judy Pascoe take an inventive look at the world of comics, in this episode exploring the genre of romance. (Teletext)

5.45 Grim Tales. Rik Mayall narrates the story of *The Frog Prince*

6.00 Press Gang. Series about a group of children who run their own newspaper (r). (Teletext)

6.30 The Wonder Years. American sitcom about a smug suburban teenager growing up in the Sixties and learning the lessons of life

7.00 Channel 4 News

8.00 Orchestra! Dudley Moore and Sir Georg Solti continue their entertaining guide to the components of the orchestra by considering the changes brought about by the invention of the valve in the early 19th century. Brass instruments became an established section of the orchestra and romantic composers such as Berlioz and Wagner used them in huge, sweeping tunes which reflected their belief in music as an expression of emotion

8.30 The New Age: Guidance. What is a channeler and how can astrology help us to come to terms with our lives? Channeler Ken Carey, healer Soozi Holbeche and leading astrologer Liz Greene discuss these and other aspects of New Age thinking

9.00 The Media Show. Emma Freud returns for more media dissection, starting with a look at how the LWT franchise was won in 1967. Among those interviewed are Frank Muir, LWT's first head of entertainment, and Jimmy Hill, its first head of sport

Combatants: Richard Dreyfuss and Danny DeVito (9.45)

9.45 Film: Tin Men (1987). In 1963 Baltimore two aluminium siding salesmen, or tin men, engage in a vindictive feud after Danny DeVito crashes his car into Richard Dreyfuss' brand-new Cadillac. Chicanery is the name of the game when it comes to promoting their wares and neither is averse to extending professional standards of conduct to their code of conflict. Good performances and an enjoyable setting, but the comic impetus is not sustained. With Barbara Hershey as the wife caught in the middle. Directed by Barry Levinson

11.55 Hello, Do You Hear Us? Latvian director Yuris Podniek won a Prix Italia for his first programme in this repeated series. He looks at the growing nationalism in Latvia and Armenia, including an interview with the late Andrei Sakharov and his wife on their return to Moscow from exile (r). Ends at 12.55am

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ANGLIA

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Farming Diary 2.00 Members Only 2.25-2.55 The World of Golf 11.35 The New Avengers 12.35am Film: Day For Night 2.45 CinemAttractions 3.15 Transmission 4.35-5.05 Pick of the Week

BORDER

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Time 2.00-2.55 Matlock 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.30am Quiz Night 1.00 I Spy 1.55 Stand Up 2.25 Film: Dead End 4.10-5.00 The ITV Chart Show

CENTRAL

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Time 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.35am Santa Barbara 1.25 Comics — The Ninth Art 1.55 The ITV Chart Show 2.55 The Story of Steam 3.45 The Twilight Zone 4.10-5.00 Central Jobfinder '91

CHANNEL

As London except: 12.35pm Les Français Chez-Vous 12.50-1.00 Tele-Jornal 2.00 Katts and Dog 2.25-2.55 Ski Tips 11.35 The Human Factor 12.05am The New Avengers 1.05 The ITV Chart Show 2.05 Music Box Special 2.35 The Twilight Zone 3.00 Backstage 3.10 Books By My Bedside 3.40 Pick of the Week 4.10-5.00 Hit Man and Her

GRANADA

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Close to the Edge 2.00-2.55 Coronation Street 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.35am Quiz Night 1.00 I Spy 1.55 Stand Up 2.25 Film: Dead End 4.10-5.00 The ITV Chart Show

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Clive's Walks 2.00 HTV Newsweek 2.30-2.55 Here Come the Double Deckers 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.35am The ITV Chart Show 1.30 Festivals of the World 2.30 The US Pro Surfing Tour 3.25 The Hit Man and Her 4.25 Music Box Special 4.55-5.00 Jobfinder

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 12.30pm-12.55 Jimmy's 2.00-2.30 Farming Wales

TSW

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Farming News 2.00-2.55 Coronation Street 5.05-5.35 The Piglet Files 11.35 In the Heat of the Night 12.30am Quiz Night 1.00 I Spy 2.00 Stand Up 2.30 Film: Dead End 4.15-5.00 The ITV Chart Show

TVS

As London except: 12.30pm TVS News followed by Agenda 2.00 Katts and Dog 2.25-2.55 Ski Tips 11.35 The Human Factor 12.00 The New Avengers 1.00am The ITV Chart Show 2.05 Music Box Special 2.35 The Twilight Zone 3.00 Backstage 3.10 Books By My Bedside 3.40 Pick of the Week 4.10-5.00 The Hit Man and Her

TYNE TEES

As London except: 12.25pm-1.00 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 2.00-2.55 Coronation Street 5.05-5.35 The Back Page 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.30 Quiz Night 1.00 I Spy 2.00 Stand Up 2.30 Film: Dead End 4.15-5.00 The ITV Chart Show

ULSTER

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Time 2.00-2.55 Coronation Street 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.25am Quiz Night 12.55 I Spy 1.55 Stand Up 2.25 Film: Dead End 4.10-5.00 The ITV Chart Show

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.25pm Goals on Sunday 12.50-1.00 Calendar News 2.00-2.55 The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams 11.35 Scrumdown 12.35am Hooperman 1.05 Pick of the Week 1.35 The Twilight Zone 2.05 The ITV Chart Show 3.05 The Blue Line 4.05 Some Call It Jazz 4.30-5.00 Jobfinder

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Early Morning 9.25 Lata in Her Own Voice 10.00 A Week in Politics 10.45 Land of the Giants 11.45 Kersplat! 12.00 The Waltons 12.55pm Now You're Talking 1.20 O Bedwar Ban 1.30 Bwrw Mlaen 2.00 Equinox 3.00 American Football Superbowl Highlights 4.00 Film: Hollywood Cavalcade 5.50 Dancing into The Nineties 6.50 San Steffan 7.00 Newyddion 7.15 Hapus Dyrfa 7.45 Hel Straeon 8.15 Dechrau Canu, Dechrau Canmol 8.45 Mwy Na Phapur Newydd 9.30 Small Stages 11.00 The Media Show 11.45 Robin Williams 12.45am Diwedd

RTE 1

Starts: 10.25am Topics in the History of Mathematics 10.50 Discovering Portugese 11.15 Sunday Mass 12.00 France Actuelle 12.25pm Russian Language and People 12.50 Market Place 1.20 Little House on the Prairie 2.10 News followed by Booklines 2.45 Goofy's Freeway Trouble 3.00 Film: Thoroughly Modern Millie 5.30 Exploring the Celtic Lands 6.00 Angelus 6.01 Six One Sunday 6.35 Scaoil Amach An Bobailín 7.00 The Cosby Show 7.30 School Around the Corner 8.00-8.30 Where in the World

NETWORK 2

Starts: 9.45am Sesame Street 10.45 The Chifty Kids 11.05 Ulysses 11.30 The Beatbox 1.30pm Head to Toe 2.00 Racing from Leopardstown 4.35 Charlie Chase 4.50 Festival: Mozart — Mass in C Minor 6.00 Flight into Hell 6.55 Nuacht 7.00 Fair City 7.55 News 8.00 Four Dubliners 9.00 Film: The Old Man and the Sea 10.45 Hostage 11.15 The Twilight Zone 11.45 Close

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SKY ONE

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am Cricket: The Ashes Tour Live 10.00 Cricket Highlights 10.30 Jayce and the Wheeled Warriors 11.00 Eight is Enough 12.00 That's Incredible 1.00pm Wonder Woman 2.00 WWF Superstars of Wrestling 3.00 Man from Atlantis 4.00 Love Boat 5.00 Small Wonder 5.30 Sky Star Search 6.30 The Simpsons 7.00 21 Jump Street 8.00 Flesh and Blood 10.00 Falcon Crest 11.00 Cricket Highlights 12.00 Entertainment Tonight 1.00am Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra satellite.
● The following schedule may be subject to alteration.
News on the hour.
5.30am Target 6.30 The Reporters 9.30 International Business Report Week 10.30 Those Were the Days 11.30 The Lords 12.30pm Target 1.30 The Reporters 2.30 Our World 3.30 The Lords 4.30 Target 5.00 Live at *Five* 6.30 The Reporters 7.30 Those Were the Days 8.30 Target 10.30 Those Were the Days 11.30 The Reporters 12.30am Our World 1.30 Target 2.30 International Business Report Week 3.30 Target 4.30 Beyond 2000

SKY NEWS

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
● The following schedule may be subject to alteration.
News on the hour.
5.30am Target 6.30 The Reporters 9.30 International Business Report Week 10.30 Those Were the Days 11.30 The Lords 12.30pm Target 1.30 The Reporters 2.00 The Dolmetsch Years — Bach 3.30 The Lords 4.30 Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre 5.00 The Story of Fashion 6.30 The Reporters 7.30 Francesco Cilea's Adriana Lecouvreur 10.30 Concert: Four Hands, Two Pianos 11.30 The Reporters 12.30am Our World 1.30 Target 2.30 International Business Report Week 3.30 Target 4.30 Beyond 2000

SKY MOVIES

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Showcase
8.00 Big (1988): A young boy wishes he was big and turns into Tom Hanks
10.00 Rocky III (1982): Rocky (Sylvester Stallone) fights to regain his title
12.00 Anastasia (1956): A white Russian army general (Yul Brynner) claims to have found the Tsar's surviving daughter (Ingrid Bergman)
2.00pm Moonwalker (1988): Michael Jackson's fantasy-inspired tour of his world
4.00 One Crazy Summer (1986): Teenage misfits holiday in New England
6.00 Iron Eagle II (1988): Louis Gossett Jr heads a joint American/Soviet mission to destroy a weapons centre in the Middle East
7.40 Projector
8.00 Three Fugitives (1989): Bank robber Nick Nolte is taken hostage by an incompetent crook (Martin Short) during a bank raid
10.00 Caboblanco (1980): After the second world war, Charles Bronson starts a new life in Peru where he becomes involved in a French woman's search for her husband
11.35 Salome's Last Dance (1988): Ken Russell's version of a trip by Oscar Wilde to a brothel to watch a staging of his banned play, *Salome.* Starring Glenda Jackson
1.05am The Best (1987): Australian drama in which a newcomer (John Savage) attempts to change the ways of local gangs
2.45 Forced Vengeance (1982): Chuck Norris gets caught up in a violent power struggle between two Hong Kong crime syndicates
4.15 Paramedics (1988): A group of fun-loving paramedics are caught up in a terrorist incident. Ends at 5.45

EUROSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Hour of Power 7.00 Fun Factory 9.00 Sunday Alive: Skiing World Championships; Transworld Sport; Basketball; Skiing World Championships; Luge; Speedskating; Indoor Speedway; Skiing 5.30pm International Motor Sport 6.30 Figure Skating 8.00 Speedskating 8.30 Football Documentary: The Game of Billions 9.30 Skiing: World Cup 10.30 Ice Skating 11.00 Luge 11.30 Indoor Soccer 12.30am World Waterskiing Tour

SCREENSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
7.00am US College Football 9.00 Motor Sport Rallycross 10.00 Ice Hockey NHL '91 12.00 Stop — USWA Wrestling 1.00pm Powersports International 2.00 Pro Box 4.00 US College Football 6.00 Weekend Live Athletics 8.00 Sunbank Daytona 24 Hours 9.00 Weekend Live US PGA 11.00 Tenpin Bowling 12.15am "Go" Dutch Motor Sport

MTV

● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

LIFESTYLE

● Via the Astra satellite.
12.00 Johnny Ringo 12.30pm The Bill Dana Show 1.00 The Joan Rivers Show 1.50 He Shoots! He Scores! 2.45 Spain Spain International Cuisine 3.00 Wrestling 4.00 Rocky Jones 4.25 Film: Coast of Skeletons 6.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 8.00 JSTV 10.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 12.00 Tonight's Top *Five* 12.30am Video Vote 4.00 Last Call

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
11.10am Three Sisters (1970): Chekhov's masterpiece about three sisters who long to escape from their dull lives in 19th century provincial Russia. Starring Joan Plowright
2.10pm The Chalk Garden (1965): Deborah Kerr becomes Hayley Mills's governess
4.00 An American Tail (1986): A family of Russian mice escape to the United States
6.00 Big Top Peewee (1988). Offbeat comedy starring Paul Reubens
8.00 Planes, Trains and Automobiles (1988): Steve Martin and John Candy play ill-matched travelling companions
10.00 Like Father, Like Son (1987): Starring Dudley Moore and Kirk Cameron
11.40 Bay Coven (1987): A Boston couple move to a small town in Massachusetts, inhabited by witches
1.20am Braddock: Missing in Action (1988) Chuck Norris returns to Vietnam to find his wife and son. Ends at 3.00

THE SPORTS CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
10.30am Scottish Football Magazine 11.30 American Football 1.30pm Italian Football Live 4.00 Boxing 5.15 Supercross 6.15 British Rugby League 8.15 Scottish Football 10.15 Fishing the West 10.45 Gerald Williams Talks To... 11.15 Scottish Football

THE POWER STATION

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
7.00am Twenty-one hours of rock and pop

2.55-10.05am Test Match Special (MW only): Australia v England. Third day of the fifth Test from Perth

6.55 Weather (FM only)

7.00 Morning Concert (FM only until 10.05am): Avison (Concerto in A: Bournemouth Sinfonietta); Chausson (Poème: LPO)

7.30 News

7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Arne (Symphony No 2 in F: Cantilena); Ramirez (Missa Criolla: Los Fronterizos: Cocorro Church Choir); Rossini (Sonata in C: I Solisti Veneti); Haydn (Symhony No 1 in D: Austro-Hungarian Haydn Orchestra)

8.30 News

8.35 Music from the Dresden Court: First of six programmes. Zelenka (Missa Dei Patris: Thüringer Academic Choir; Virtuosi Saxoniae); Quantz (Sonata in D: Hans de Vries, oboe, Albert de Klerk, organ); Vivaldi (Concerto in G minor, RV 577, per l'orchestra di Dresda: Chamber Orchestra of Europe)

9.15 Isaac Stern and Friends: The first of six programmes reflecting the recording repertoire of the violinist. Beethoven (Piano Trio in D, Op 70 No 1, Ghost: Leonard Rose, cello, Eugene Istomin, piano); Sibelius (Violin Concerto in D minor: RPO under Thomas Beecham)

10.15 Music Weekly

11.00 From the Proms 1990: Rotterdam PO performs Mahler (Symphony No 6)

12.25pm The English Concert: English Concert performs J.S. Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 4, BWV 1049)

12.45 Replay:

● CHOICE: With these recollections of her famous aunt, recorded by Rosalind Vaughan Nash in 1937, it is the authenticity of the snapshots that counts more than any new light they shed on the home life of Florence Nightingale. That said, it is not without interest to learn that Florence took kindly to the idea of nurses on bicycles, was considerate to her maids in the matter of time-off, could envisage circumstances under which the human being could not be good, and wore five layers of petticoats to keep out the Victorian cold (r)

1.00 News

1.05 Your Concert Choice, with Paul Gaboury. Stamitz (Symphony in D, Op 3 No 2: Academy of Ancient Music under Hogwood); Mozart (Ave verum corpus, K 618: Choir of King's College Cambridge; Cambridge Classical Players under Stephen Cleobury); Dvořák (String Quartet in E flat, Op 51: Chilingirian Quartet); Sibelius (Five Pieces, Op 75, The Trees: Erik Tawaststjerna, piano); Ponce (Concierto del Sur: London Symphony Orchestra under André Previn, with John Williams, guitar)

2.30 Chamber Music from Birmingham: The pianist Janis Vakarelis plays Brahms (Four Ballades, Op 10); Schumann (Faschingsschwank aus Wien, Op 26); Mussorgsky (Pictures from an Exhibition), incl 3.10 Interval Reading

4.00 BBC Welsh SO under Nicholas Cleobury performs Sandstrom (Culminations for orchestra); Souster (Trumpet Concerto); Stravinsky (Symphony in three movements)

5.15 Opera News, with James Naughtie

6.00 The Offering of Life: Seen through the seasons by the Rev Canon Denis Claringbull, recorded in St Paul's Church, Birmingham

6.45 Elgar's Piano Quintet: Coull String Quartet, with Allan Schiller, piano, performs Elgar (Piano Quintet in A minor, Op 84) (r)

7.30 Sunday Play: Games, by Ivan Klima. Through the medium of party games, the Czech writer explores his country's post-1968 history

8.55 BBC SO under James Wood performs James Wood (Oreion)

9.30 Ian Lake Plays Haydn: The pianist plays Haydn (Variations in A, H XVII 2; Fantasia; Capriccio in C, H XVII 4; Variations in E flat, H XVII 3)

10.05 York Early Music Festival: Yorkshire Bach Choir and Baroque Soloists under Peter Seymour perform Charpentier (Second Vespers for the Feast of St Louis)

12.00-12.05am News

2.55-10.05am Test Match Special (MW only): Australia v England. Fourth day of the fifth Test from Perth

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● FM: Most scheduled programmes will be suspended to give news of the Gulf war. The following schedule, on MW and LW, is subject to alteration:

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 Prelude 6.30 News; Morning Has Broken 6.55 Weather 7.00 News 7.10 Sunday Papers 7.15 On Your Farm, with Robert Forster

7.40 Sunday, incl 7.55 Weather 8.00 News 8.10 Sunday Papers 8.50 Professor Anthony Clare appeals on behalf of the Mental Health Foundation 8.55 Weather

9.00 News 9.10 Sunday Papers

9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke (r)

9.30 Morning Service from the Methodist Central Hall, Westminster

10.15 The Archers: Omnibus edition

11.15 News Stand

11.30 Pick of the Week (r)

12.15pm Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley's castaway is Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, social and political philosopher. 12.55 Weather

1.00 The World This Weekend 1.55 Shipping Forecast

2.00 Gardeners' Question Time: Members of the Sidcup Horticultural Association in Kent put their queries to the team

2.30 Sunday Playhouse: The Far Cry, by David Zane Mairowitz. Olivier (Tony Armatrading), a subnormal young Creole, is drafted by accident into the French army. He escapes to Berlin, pursued by his brother Willie (Mark Monero) (r)

4.00 News; Analysis (new series): Up the Ladder (r)

4.47 Time for Verse: Carol Ann Duffy visits the Aldeburgh Poetry Festival

5.00 News; Down Your Way: Dr Neil Cossons, director of the Science Museum, visits his native Nottinghamshire

5.40 Beaten Tracks: Roger Worsley explores four ancient highways. 1: The Old Trackways (r) 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

6.00 News 6.15 Feedback (r)

6.30 The Art of Travel: Six programmes in which Annette Kobak invites seasoned travellers to reflect on their travels. 5: Fiona Pitt-Kethley and Italy

7.00 The Root of the Matter: Key issues from the perspective of the people involved

7.30 Bookshelf: Anita Brookner analyses the influence on her writing of the books in her Chelsea home (r)

8.00 Diary of a Madman

● CHOICE: A radio event, this, if ever there was one — the clown getting his big chance to play Hamlet. To be specific, this is the first transmission, 27 years after it was recorded, of Kenneth Williams's reading of the Gogol story that was to have been used as the soundtrack of an animated film that Richard Williams started but never completed. Newly restored, by John Whitehall, and produced anew by Ned Chaillet, the tape enshrines not only the late comedian's astonishing multi-level performance as the humble clerk in the grip of romantic and monarchial delusions of grandeur, but also Peter Shade's original and slightly mad musical score

8.40 A Talking Head: Alan Bennett introduces the radio versions of his *Talking Heads* monologues which start next Sunday

9.00 Enquire Within (r)

9.15 The Natural History Programme (r) 9.59 Weather

10.00 News

10.15 That Reminds Me: Elisabeth Söderström chooses music to reflect her experiences of travelling with those of her predecessors

11.00 In Committee

11.30 Seeds of Faith: Not a Problem. In the first of two programmes, the Rev Roger Grainger reflects on the experience of suffering

11.45 Before the Ending of the Day: The late evening office of Compline

12.00-12.30am News, incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m; FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Jazz FM 102.2. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; Melody FM 104.9.

FM Stereo and MW. 5.00am Jenny Costello 7.00 The Bruno and Liz Breakfast Show 9.30 Dave Lee Travis 12.30pm Pick of the Pops 2.30 Phillip Schofield 4.30 The Complete UK Top 40 with Mark Goodier 7.00 Anne Nightingale's Request Show 9.00 Andy Kershaw 11.00-2.00am John Peel

FM Stereo. 4.00am David Allan 6.00 Graham Knight 7.30 Don Maclean says Good Morning Sunday 9.05 Richard Baxter with Melodies for You 11.00 Desmond Carrington with Radio 2 All-Time Greats 2.00pm Benny Green 3.00 Alan Dell with Sounds Easy 4.00 Palm Court Time 4.30 Sing Something Simple 5.00 Charlie Chester 7.00 Moira's Music 8.00 Victor Silvester Orchestra (r) 8.30 Sunday Half Hour 9.00 Alan Keith with Your Hundred Best Tunes 10.00 The Radio 2 Arts Programme: Movements from Movies 12.05am Encore 1.00-4.00 Andrew Lane with Night Ride

6.00am World Service: Newsdesk 6.30 Meridian Reports 7.00 News; 24 Hours 7.30 Sunday Edition, incl 7.30 News 8.00 News; Sport 8.30 News 9.00 Sport 9.02 This Family Business, incl 10.00 Sport 10.30 Education Matters, with Wendy Jones (r) 11.00 Sport 11.02 Anita Morgan Meets Sonia Hobbs (r) 11.30 Labour of Love 12.00 Sport 12.03pm Open University: Open Forum 12.22 Managing Schools 12.41 The Enlightenment 1.00 Sport 1.03 Modern Art and Modernism 1.22 The State and Economic Intervention 1.41 Nuclear Weapons 2.00 Sport 2.03 As Radio 2 3.00 Football Extra: Barclays League — Manchester United v Liverpool 5.00 As Radio 4 6.00 Sport 6.10 Bob Hatton Rattle 6.40 Euromix with Caron Keating (r) 7.20 Open University: Arts Foundation Course 7.40 Technology 8.00 Mathematics Miscellany 8.20 Arts Review 8.40 Arts: The Enlightenment 9.00 Nightbeat 9.30 Across the Line, incl 10.00 Sport 11.00 Sport 11.05 World Service: World Report 11.20 Fount of Learning 11.50 They Made Our World 12.00-12.05 Sport

All times in GMT. 5.00am German Features 5.35 News in German; Headlines in English and French 5.47 Press Review 5.52 Financial News 5.58 Weather and Travel News 6.00 Newsdesk 6.15 Gulf News Special 6.30 Londres Matin 6.58 Weather 7.00 News 7.15 Gulf News Special 8.00 News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 Music for a while with Richard Baker 9.00 News 9.15 Backing the Canvas 9.30 Financial Review 9.40 Book Choice 9.45 Society Today 10.00 News 10.15 Science in Action 10.30 In Praise of God 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Midi Magazine 11.59 Travel News 12.00 News 12.05pm Play of the Week: The Film Society 1.00 News 1.15 Special Gulf Programme 2.00 News 2.15 Sports Roundup 2.30 Anything Goes 3.00 News 3.15 International Recital 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 News and Features in German 4.59 Travel News 5.00 News 5.15 Club 648 5.30 Londres Soir 6.14 News headlines in English 6.15 BBC English 6.30 News and Features in German 7.54 News in German 8.00 News 8.09 Personal View 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 Ned Sherrin's Counterpoint 9.00 News 9.15 What Do Jews Believe? 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newshour 11.00 News 11.15 Music for a While with Richard Baker 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am In Praise of God 1.00 News 1.15 With Great Pleasure 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Composer of the Month: J.S. Bach 3.00 News 3.15 Good Books 3.30 Anything Goes 3.59 Weather 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Letter from America 4.45 News and Press Review in German

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TT2JJ

Washington issues warning to Soviets on arms treaties

From Martin Fletcher in Washington

THE Bush administration has issued a blunt warning to Moscow that unless it ceased its "fraudulent" attempts to circumvent the treaty to cut conventional forces in Europe, this would not be sent to the Senate for ratification and the imminent treaty to reduce the superpowers' strategic nuclear arsenals would also not be ratified.

The warning was delivered by James Baker, the American Secretary of State, in a private meeting in Washington with Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, the Soviet foreign minister, administration officials said. It came after Mr Bessmertnykh proposed compromise solutions to American complaints of Soviet violations that Mr Baker found unacceptable. "He was very direct," said one official. "He said there could be no *ex post facto* rewriting of the treaty and no compromising. You signed the treaty. If you didn't like it, you shouldn't have signed it . . . We simply are not going to submit the treaty to the Senate unless this is resolved."

The dispute underlines the new tensions in superpower relations and the extent to which the Soviet military, which dislikes the CFE, has reasserted itself, particularly since the departure of Eduard Shevardnadze, the former foreign minister, who had promised in Houston last December to address American complaints.

Lengthy US-Soviet negotiations over the past week to iron out remaining obstacles to a Start treaty did make progress, said one official, but he considered it "very unlikely" that the administration would submit the Start treaty to the Senate unless it received satisfaction on CFE, and still less likely that the Senate would agree to ratify Start if Moscow was seen to be cheating on CFE.

President Bush and Mr Gorbachev signed the CFE treaty in Paris in November, but the US subsequently complained officially that Moscow had transferred thousands of tanks and troops to naval units that were exempt, had declared at least 20,000 fewer weapons than American estimates in the area covered by the treaty.

The naval units remain the principal bone of contention, and Mr Bessmertnykh proposed a compromise whereby Moscow would undertake to expand those units no further, which Mr Baker rejected out of hand. He also rejected Moscow's defence that the Soviet military had been unaware of what was in the treaty when Mr Gorbachev signed it.

Snow and ice spreads to the east

SNOW and sleet will hit the east of England today as the depression which yesterday brought snow and ice to the West Country drags wintry conditions in its wake (Robin Young writes).

The Meteorological Office has again issued warnings of freezing fog and icy patches on roads, which are likely to persist as temperatures stay below 5C.

Nine schools in Somerset were closed yesterday because of snow, and freezing fog and black ice caused a spate of accidents in the county after a slight thaw and sudden freeze. A 20mph speed limit was placed on stretches of the M5 after slush turned to ice. A lorry overturned on a stretch of the motorway near Exeter causing a 30-mile tailback.

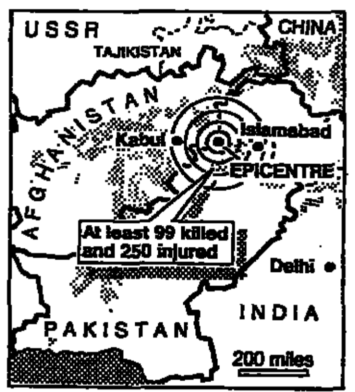
The rest of the country is likely to get a sharp frost and some fog this morning but the rest of the day will be mainly dry and sunny. For skiers, however, conditions in Scotland over the weekend should be ideal, with some new snow on a hard base and all chairlifts open.

Winds of change, page 6

Same wavelength: surfers brave freezing temperatures as they try in vain to break the record for riding the Severn Bore at Minsterworth, Gloucestershire, yesterday. The bore occurs when tidal change causes a surge of fast flowing water on the river bed. The tide has one of the highest ranges in the world, often rising 45ft

Earthquake toll nears 100

From Zahid Hussein in Karachi and Our Foreign Staff



AT LEAST 99 people died and more than 250 were injured yesterday after an earthquake shook Afghanistan and Pakistan's North West Frontier province.

The quake began in the Hindu Kush mountains and crossed the Soviet Union's central republics, Pakistan and parts of India. There were no reports of casualties by Soviet or Indian authorities.

Many of the 95 victims in Pakistan died in their sleep when their mud houses crumbled during the minute-long tremor. Reports said that hundreds of homes had collapsed in the snowbound mountainous districts of Malakand and Hazara, the most seriously affected areas. The precise number of casualties is not known as large parts of the affected areas are inaccessible.

Many districts of Punjab province were also reported to have been hit by the quake, which measured 6.8 on the Richter scale. It was the third fatal earthquake in the region in a year.

The worst affected district yesterday was Bunner in Malakand where at least 22 people were killed and scores of others injured. Sixteen people were killed in Chitral, ten in Swat and 12 in Bajur. Tremors were also felt in Peshawar. Several houses were destroyed but no deaths have been reported so far. The snowcapped Hazara district was also seriously hit, but no reports have been received.

Afghanistan's official Kabul radio reported that at least four people were killed and about a dozen injured. Scores of homes were destroyed and some government offices damaged. Among the worst hit were Afghan refugees living in camps throughout the Northwest Frontier Province. Kabul residents woke to tremors that lasted about 45 seconds.

Tass said tremors destroyed houses, triggered landslides and brought down power lines in villages around Khorog in the southern Soviet republic of Tajikistan although there were no reports of casualties.

Building for quakes, page 12

De Klerk faces protest

Continued from page 1

become known as the cornerstones of apartheid."

His dramatic declaration was missed by members of the far-right Conservative party, who had walked out a moment earlier when he announced the impending demise of the Land Acts. That measure sparked a furore, during which enraged right-wing members denounced Mr de Klerk as a traitor, and as "the hangman of the Afrikaner". Ordered by the Speaker to withdraw their remarks or leave the House, they marched out and were promptly joined by the remainder of their colleagues.

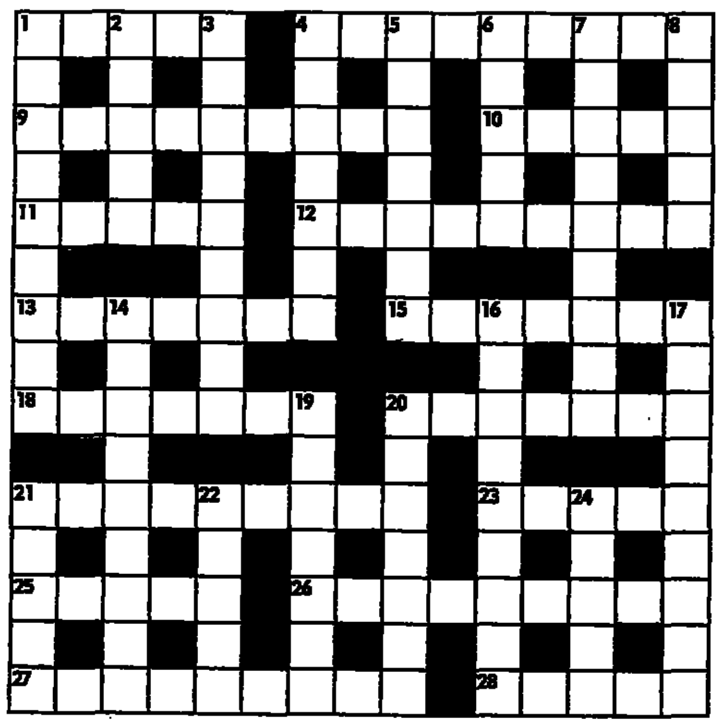
A new dawn: De Klerk in parliament yesterday

Outside the chamber, Andries Treurnicht, the Conservative leader, said: "It is unbelievable to see a western leader govern himself, his party, and his *volk* out of power."

Undeterred, Mr de Klerk went on to disclose other far-reaching reforms, notably in local government. Recognising that people should not be coerced into communities, he envisaged a system based on freedom of association.

Summing up his reforms, he said: "There is neither time nor room for turning back. There is only one road — ahead, with purpose and dedication."

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,519



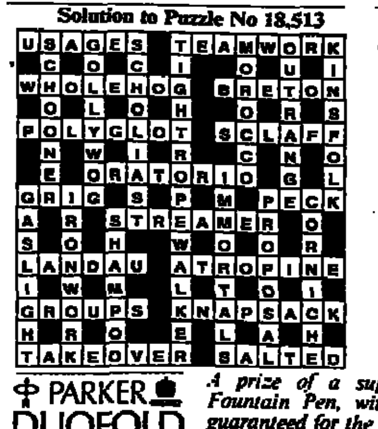
ACROSS

1 Female paragon (5).
4 Got together and made score of ninteen, say (7,2).
9 Cornering with second gear, having the usual accessories (9).
10 Catching game, about to follow cross beast (5).
11 One son and girl in family (5).
12 Condescend to hide old brooch in very secure place (9).
13 Attacker, initially driven off, regrouping? (7).
15 Tonic I'd brewed, in a manner of speaking (7).
18 She takes Tennessee's so-called transport, heading East (7).
20 Pacific tribesmen pass round this (7).
21 May possibly give old character to great actor (5-4).
23 Tradesman who vanished in agony (5).
25 One has to admit the monarch (5).
26 List of successes in dismantling apartheid (3,6).
27 He hands out money to put on pitch a great player (9).
28 Wine's taste initially acceptable (5).

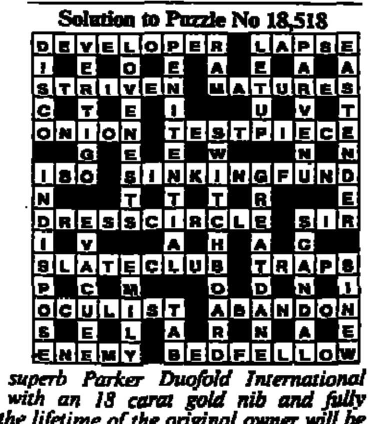
DOWN

1 Stony? Sulk if one is in debt (9).
2 Gather together in a celebration (5).
3 One can see what the speaker's expressing (3-6).
4 Not a maiden to knock down? (3,4).
5 What's heard in Security Council is flawed (7).
6 Such a treat isn't really for the wife (5).
7 A certain person's opinions (9).
8 Change to author church supports (5).
14 Little girl's sort of upper-class, having noble rank (9).
16 Priest removing one article from tabernacle, possibly (9).
17 Bad reputation, one I try to change (9).
19 Audible range being talked about? (7).
20 Man from one city caught girl in another (7).
21 Author playing part in Hamlet (5).
22 Girl's name, as usual, left off the end (5).
24 Trick can upset kings extremely (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,513



Solution to Puzzle No 18,518



PARKER DUOFOLD *A prize of a superb Parker Duofold International Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.*

Name/Address..

....

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

SCATCH
a. A kind of stilt
b. To wound superficially
c. A burglar's look-out

PORRACEOUS
a. Putrescent
b. Leek-green in colour
c. Permeable, porous

PANOCHA
a. A Mexican coarse bown sugar
b. A camel carrying-pannier
c. All-seeing

FABBY
a. Wonderful
b. Fat and flabby
c. A female tabby cat

Answers on page 13

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roundworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

Concise Crossword, page 13

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mr Butler, Enterprise House, N Chingford, Essex; R F Coleman, Addlestead Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, Kent; J Brewster, Kenilworth Great Lumley, Chester-le-Street, Co Durham; P Holden-Rushworth, Upper Brook Street, Winchester, Hampshire; J B Reardon, The Elms, Fentham Road, Hampton-in-Arden, West Midlands.

WEATHER

Northern, central and eastern parts of England will be mainly cloudy with outbreaks of rain, sleet or snow. Becoming drier in northern and central areas. Wales and the rest of England will be mainly dry with sunny intervals after a frosty and foggy start. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be cloudy with some rain, sleet or snow in more western and northern areas. Generally cold. Outlook: cloudy with rain, sleet or snow in the North and West. Brighter elsewhere.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	11	52	c	Madrid	3	37	r
Akrotiri	13	55	s	Majorca	13	55	s
Alex'dria	13	55	c	Malaga	11	52	r
Algiers	11	52	c	Malta	13	55	f
Amst'dm	-3	27	sn	Melb'rne	18	64	f
Athens	5	41	f	Mexico C*	15	59	f
Barbads*	24	75	r	Miami*	30	86	s
Barcelna	9	48	f	Milan	1	34	s
Belgrade	-8	18	s	Montreal*	-8	18	f
Berlin	-5	23	s	Moscow	-21	-6	s
Bermuda*	25	77	s	Munich	-5	23	s
Biarritz	8	46	r	Nairobi	26	79	f
Borde'x	7	45	s	N Delhi	19	66	s
Brussels	-2	28	c	N York*	2	36	f
Budapst	-6	21	s	Nice	10	50	c
B Aires*	24	75	c	Oslo	-5	23	c
Cairo	15	59	f	Paris	0	32	c
Cape Tn	23	73	s	Peking	6	43	s
C'blanca	15	59	f	Perth	31	88	f
Chicago*	-7	19	s	Prague	-6	21	s
Cologne	-1	30	s	Reykjvik	0	32	sn
C'phagn	-1	30	s	Rhodes	10	50	f
Corfu	7	45	f	Rio de J	31	88	f
Dublin	5	41	c	Salzburg	-4	25	s
Dubrovnik	3	37	s	S F'risco*	9	48	f
Faro	14	57	r	Santiago*	29	84	s
Florence	1	34	f	Seoul	1	34	s
Frankfurt	-1	30	s	Sing'por	30	86	f
Funchal	16	61	s	St'kholm	-4	25	sn
Geneva	-1	30	c	Strasb'rg	-3	27	c
Gibraltar	13	55	c	Sydney	26	79	s
Helsinki	-1	30	c	Tangier	13	55	f
Hong K	15	59	c	Tokyo	10	50	s
Innsbrck	-1	30	s	Toronto*	-6	21	s
Istanbul	-3	27	sn	Tunis	13	55	f
Jo'burg*	21	70	f	Valencia	9	48	c
L Palmas	19	66	s	Vanc'ver*	5	41	r
Le Tquet	2	36	c	Venice	1	34	s
Lisbon	13	55	f	Vienna	-6	21	s
Locarno	1	34	c	Warsaw	-		
L Angels*	17	63	f		13	9	s
Luxembg	-6	21	c	Wash'ton*	4	39	s
Luxor	19	66	f	Zurich	-4	25	c

* denotes figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	3.9	.01	3	37	shower
Anglesey	3.6	-	4	39	bright
Aviemore	6.5	-	2	36	sunny
Belfast	6.7	-	5	41	sunny
Birmingham	0.6	-	2	36	cloudy
Bognor Regis	1.1	.12	4	39	rain
Brighton	-	.03	3	37	snow
Bristol	-	.30	2	36	snow
Cardiff	-	.12	2	36	snow
Clacton	0.1	-	3	37	cloudy
Edinburgh	-	-	1	34	cloudy
Eskdalemuir	0.1	.02	1	34	snow
Exmouth	0.5	.09	1	34	snow
Falmouth	2.5	.17	4	39	bright
Folkestone	-	-	3	37	dull
Glasgow	2.3	-	2	36	cloudy
Guernsey	1.1	-	7	45	cloudy
Hastings	-	.05	4	39	sleet
Jersey	1.2	.04	7	45	hail
Kinloss	7.0	-	4	39	sunny
Leeds	-	-	3	37	drizzle
Lerwick	5.3	.03	6	43	sunny
London	-	-	4	39	dull
Lowestoft	-	-	3	37	dull
Manchester	-	-	3	37	cloudy
Minehead	-	.34	1	34	snow
Newquay	-	.05	4	39	cloudy
Nottingham	0.1	-	1	34	snow
Penzance	7.0	.18	6	43	sunny
Plymouth	-	.11	1	34	snow
Scilly Isles	5.5	.18	6	43	sunny
Shanklin	1.2	.23	4	39	sleet
Southsea	1.1	.28	5	41	snow
St. Ives	4.1	.07	5	41	bright
Stornoway	7.5	-	5	41	sunny
Teignmouth	-	.10	1	34	snow
Tenby	1.5	.17	2	36	snow
Tiree	7.7	-	5	41	sunny
Torquay	-	.09	1	34	snow
Weymouth	-	.02	2	36	drizzle
Wick	7.5	.01	5	41	sunny
Worthing	-	.05	4	39	snow

Thursday's figures are latest available

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

TODAY
London 4.51 pm to 7.37 am
Bristol 5.01 pm to 7.46 am
Edinburgh 4.47 pm to 8.05 am
Manchester 4.53 pm to 7.52 am
Penzance 5.17 pm to 7.54 am

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	3	37	c	Guernsey	5	41	s
B'rmgham	2	36	c	Inverness	3	37	c
Blackpool	1	34	sl	Jersey	5	41	s
Bristol	4	39	s	London	5	41	c
Cardiff	4	39	s	M'nchster	1	34	sn
Edinburgh	2	36	c	Newcastle	4	39	r
Glasgow	3	37	s	R'nldsway	3	37	c

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.42	7.3	4.10	7.5
Aberdeen	3.15	4.2	3.18	4.5
Avonmouth	9.14	13.9	9.36	13.4
Belfast	1.02	3.3	1.09	3.8
Cardiff	8.59	12.8	9.21	12.4
Devonport	7.50	5.7	8.13	5.4
Harwich	1.34	4.1	2.01	4.0
Holyhead	12.03	5.6	12.17	5.9
Hull	8.19	7.5	8.22	8.1
Portsmouth	1.41	4.8	1.28	4.7
Shoreham	1.02	6.5	1.14	6.3
Southampton	12.42	4.7	12.52	4.6

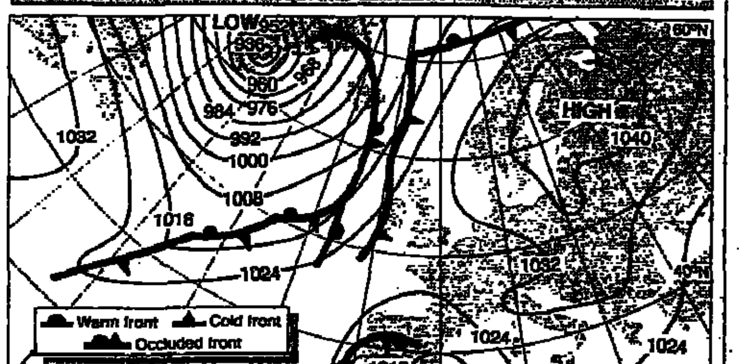
MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 2C (36F); min 6 pm to 6 am, –1C (30F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.016 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, nil.

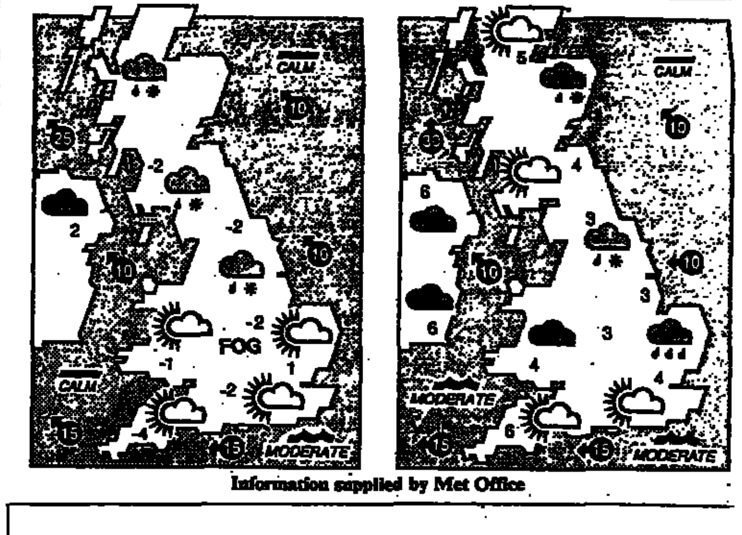
GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 3C (37F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 3.2 hr.

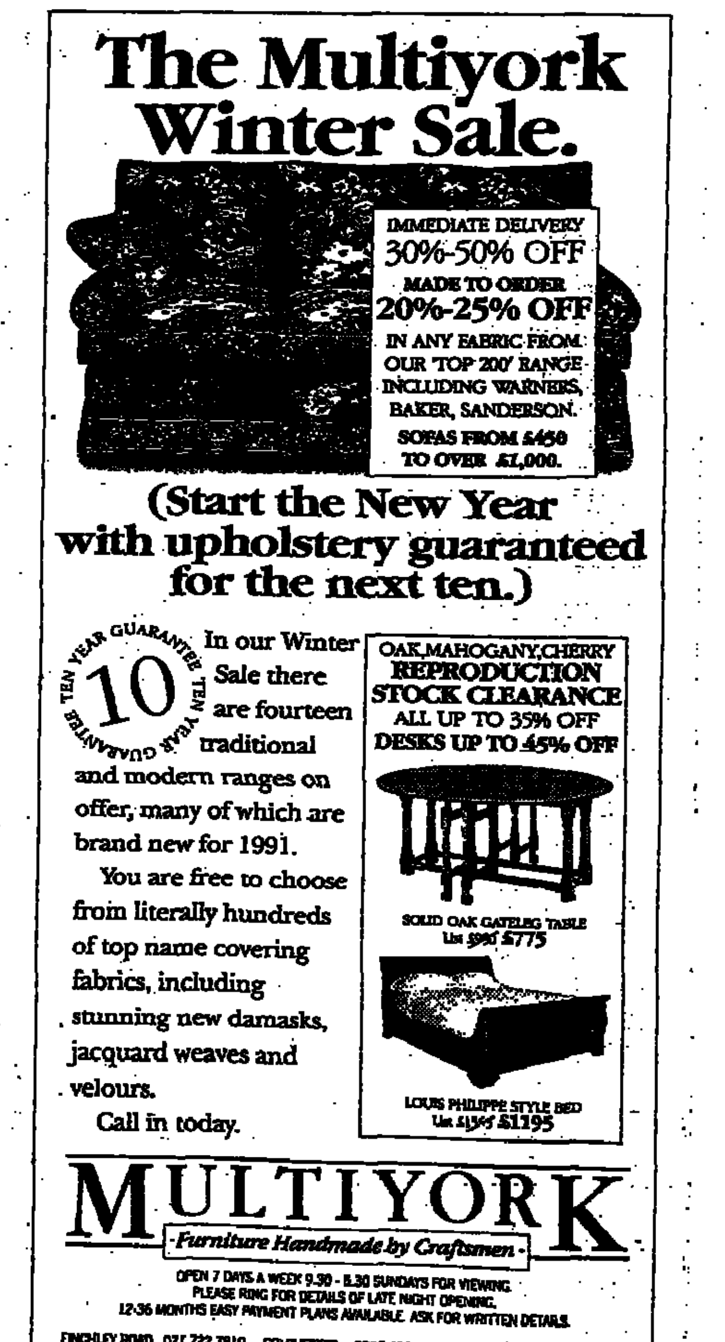
NOON TODAY



TODAY	Sun rises:	Sun sets:	TOMORROW	Sun rises:	Sun sets:
	7.33 am	4.51 pm		7.37 am	4.53 pm
	Moon sets:	Moon rises:		Moon sets:	Moon rises:
	8.34 am	9.30 pm		8.49 am	10.46 pm



Information supplied by Met Office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● SPORT 23-28
● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 29-32
● WEEKEND MONEY 34-38

SPORT

[illegible]

Back and forward

The five nations' rugby union championship resumes today with the champions of last year, Scotland, playing Wales at Murrayfield and Ireland entertaining the revitalised French team at Lansdowne Road.

The favourites this year, England, have no match but the players will be far from idle, gathering in Richmond to train and talk about the challenges to come, which also include the World Cup starting in October. Rob Andrew (above), the England stand-off half, looks forward to what should be an exciting year for him and his team ...... Page 24

SKIING

Past form

VRENI Schneider, of Austria, regained the form that made her one of the great names of the sport to win the women's slalom in the world championships in Saalbach and Hinterglemm in Austria yesterday. Brian James reports .... Page 26

ATHLETICS

Last lap

SALLY Gunnell (above), the hurdler, takes part in the national indoor championships this weekend, the last time they will held at RAF Cosford. David Powell, athletics correspondent, traces the history of the venue .. Page 28

YACHTING

The lonely sea

THE third leg of the BOC single-handed round the world yacht race begins in Sydney tomorrow. As Barry Pickthall reports, more than 7,000 miles of dangerous waters, including Cape Horn, lie between the competitors and their destination, Punta del Este in Uruguay .... Page 26

FOOTBALL

United force

LIVERPOOL'S disappointing form has persuaded them to pay £675,000 this week for David Speedie to strengthen their attack. They will need to be at their best tomorrow, when they go to Old Trafford to play Manchester United, for whom the Welsh forward, Mark Hughes (above), is enjoying a remarkable spell of goalscoring form .... Page 25

RACING

Grey suited

DESERT Orchid faces only three rivals in the £35,000 Agfa Diamond Chase at Sandown this afternoon. The grey won the corresponding race in 1987 and 1989. The Champion Hurdle aspirants, Fidway, Wonder Man and Deep Sensation, clash in the Agfa Hurdle while tomorrow Nomadic Way and Royal Derbi contest the Wessel Cable Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown .... Page 27

England self-destruct again

From Alan Lee, cricket correspondent, Perth

WHEN even the most complete and illogical batting collapse comes to be regarded as an everyday expectation, a team has lost all its credibility. For the hapless England cricketers, the habit has now become an addiction which they seem incapable of conquering.

Not for the first time in this Ashes series, England were in full command in the opening hours of the fifth Test here yesterday. Approaching tea, they were 191 for two, the engine room of Allan Lamb and Robin Smith finally functioning at full throttle. The Perth pitch was no ogre after all and the Australian bowling, in the absence of Bruce Reid, looked no better than ordinary.

To surrender in these circumstances seemed a stern test even of England's capacity, yet they contrived a collapse so rapid, so comprehensive that it handed over control of the game in less than an hour.

The last eight wickets were lost for 53 runs. Six of them went down for 15 in 40 minutes after tea. Craig McDermott, toiling unavailingly with figures of two for 72 in late afternoon, finished with eight for 97, the best analysis in an Ashes Test since Bob Willis took eight for 43 in the 1981 match at Headingley.

The worst of it is that no one who has watched this series can summon genuine surprise any more. It is simply a matter of waiting for the moment the collapse begins. For once it is under way, there is no stopping it. England have unerringly followed this pattern in every game of the series and their abject failure to stem the tide of wickets even once in a while must cast serious doubts on the character and resilience of the side.

While Lamb and Smith were together in a stand of 141, the game held no terrors. They scored at four runs an over and, if there were times when their haste was indiscreet, it had a revealing effect on the Australians, whose reaction was to bowl unintelligently short, to appeal for everything and to radiate the sulkiness of a side accustomed to making things happen rather faster.

England ushered them back into the game. Smith and Lamb were out either side of tea, to strokes of which neither could feel proud. The remainder was a procession, frustratedly observed from the other end by David Gower, left stranded on 28 and still 39 short of the England Test run record.

There have been squandered opportunities for England earlier in the series but this one was especially wasteful. It has been clear, these past few days, that the Australian team, its officials and supporters, are now far more concerned with the imminent Caribbean.

Reid's omission here, with no more than a minor ailment, was one indicator from the dressing-room; a pitifully small crowd, dominated by English tourists, was one from the public. Allan Border would never deliberately ease off against England but his team is prone to the subconscious relaxation and England, shamefully, made nothing of the chance.

Gooch can have had no serious doubts about batting first but, for more than an hour, the new ball swung for Alderman, bounced and seamed for McDermott and generally made batting a test of nerve, reflex and technique.

McDermott dismissed Gooch with one which left him off the pitch and fancied he had Atherton caught down the legside in the same over, reacting peevishly to the "not out" verdict. Atherton then began to play as positively as he has ever done for England, but when he had made 27 out of 50 in exactly an hour, McDermott had his revenge, Healy claiming a legside catch which, this time, was unarguable.

Smith's innings began with some neurotic air shots at wide balls and some narrow escapes against an occasional very good one from Hughes. Alderman, on his home ground, was for once ineffectual and by lunch England were 106 for two and Lamb had included a regal straight six off Matthews in his 44.

In 45 minutes at the start of the afternoon Lamb and Smith added 56 runs, 35 of them coming from five overs from McDermott. He retreated, pride bruised, but returned vigorously just before tea to make the crucial breakthrough.

Smith, having needed only 24 overs to reach 50, then spent 11 more adding just eight. Irritated, he speared a loose drive to second slip. Lamb, however, was at his best, utterly confident and apparently bound for his first Test century in Australia when he fell, five balls into the evening session, to the one shot which had threatened his downfall.

Pulling at a short ball too wide of the off stump for the stroke to be safe, he ballooned it to mid-on, thumping his bat into the ground in disgust. McDermott was now rampant and, in his next over, won a leg-before verdict against Stewart. If it looked dubiously legside it was still an extension of a bad time for Stewart, whose last four Test innings have produced 29 runs.

DeFreitas and Newport, drafted in for the struggling Fraser, were out to consecutive balls, Small and Tufnell fell meekly to Hughes and suddenly Gower was left with only Malcolm for company. Their association lasted five overs and was worth 17 runs before McDermott took his eighth wicket of the day and his 15th in three innings since his recall. Habitual wicket-taker that he is, he was decidedly flattered by yesterday's figures.

Australia were left 40 minutes to bat and Malcolm unwittingly encapsulated England's performance by slipping on his backside as he tried to deliver the first ball. Small did produce a leg-cutter to dispatch Marsh but the effect of the new ball was diminished by a wayward line of attack. Gooch stood at slip looking wretched, as well he might.

Up she goes: Lamb's mistimed pull cost him his wicket on 91

SCOREBOARD FROM PERTH

England won toss

ENGLAND: First Innings

		6s	4s	Min	Balls
*G A Gooch c Healy b McDermott *Edging swinging ball wide of off stump*	13	—	2	39	33
M A Atherton c Healy b McDermott *Off gloves down the leg side*	27	—	4	62	44
A J Lamb c Border b McDermott *Pull shot skied high to mid on*	91	1	13	206	122
R A Smith c Taylor b McDermott *Edge to second slip*	58	1	9	153	120
D I Gower not out	28	—	3	94	82
†A J Stewart lbw b McDermott *Playing half forward*	2	—	—	9	9
P A J DeFreitas c Marsh b McDermott *Drove wide ball to gully*	5	—	—	8	8
P J Newport c Healy b McDermott *Edge to wicketkeeper diving past first slip*	0	—	—	1	1
G C Small c Boon b Hughes *Turned ball to short leg*	0	—	—	5	4
P C R Tufnell c Healy b Hughes *Trying to take bat away from bouncer*	0	—	—	5	3
D E Malcolm c Marsh b McDermott *Skied drive to point*	7	—	1	27	12
Extras (b 1, lb 6, w 1, nb 5)	13				
Total (86.4 overs, 313 min)	244				

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-27 (Atherton 12), 2-50 (Lamb 8), 3-191 (Lamb 84), 4-212 (Gower 12), 5-220 (Gower 16), 6-226 (Gower 17), 7-226 (Gower 17), 8-227 (Gower 18), 9-227 (Gower 18), 10-244 (Gower 28).

BOWLING: Alderman 22-5-66-0 (11-3-33-0), (3-0-17-0), (8-2-16-0); McDermott 24.4-2-97-8 (8 nb) (9-0-31-2) (5-1-35-0) (10.4-1-31-6); Hughes 17-3-49-2 (w 1) (5-1-15-0) (6-1-21-0) (6-1-13-2); Waugh 1-0-9-0 (one spell); Matthews 2-0-16-0 (one spell)

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

		6s	4s	Min	Balls
G R Marsh c Stewart b Small *Edge off defensive shot to leg cutter*	1	—	—	10	10
M A Taylor not out	9	—	—	42	22
D C Boon not out	9	—	1	30	22
Total (1 wkt, 9 overs, 42min)	19				

FALL OF WICKET: 1-1 (Taylor 0).

BOWLING: Malcolm 5-0-8-0; Small 4-2-11-1 (one spell each).

*A R Border, D M Jones, M E Waugh, G R J Matthews, †I A Healy, C J McDermott, M G Hughes and T M Alderman to bat.

Umpires: S G Randell and C D Timmins.

PREVIOUS RESULTS: First Test: Australia won by ten wickets. Second Test: Australia won by eight wickets. Third Test: Match drawn. Fourth Test: Match drawn.

BBC is on target with TV contract

By David Hands
Rugby correspondent

THE BBC has beaten ITV in the contest to televise the rugby union five nations' championship.

The BBC's contract ends on April 30 and there was intense speculation that ITV, which had been awarded the contract to show the World Cup this autumn, would also win the rights to the five nations' championship and domestic matches. Both channels were said to have made similar bids, in the region of £10 million, and it took the four home unions' television sub-committee nearly four hours before reaching the decision that was announced yesterday.

The new three-year contract, which runs from September 1, "includes the live televising of the five nations ... incoming tour matches and ... a weekly magazine programme of at least one hour's duration for the 30 weeks of the season," Bob Weighill, the secretary to the four home unions, said in a statement. It is worth twice the existing contract, though not as much as the £15 million the four home unions are believed to have asked at one stage during the negotiations.

"Another crucial sports contract is secured for BBC viewers," Jonathan Martin, the head of BBC Sport, said. "Rugby union is a cornerstone of our sports output. In the last 12 months, BBC Sport has retained four key contracts — Wimbledon, the Open, Formula One and now rugby union."

There seems little risk now that Bill McLaren, widely regarded as the voice of rugby, could move channels, though ITV would not necessarily have wished to "steal" established presenters. "We are mounting a major operation next October and hope to unleash some new talent in broadcasting terms," Bob Burrows, the head of ITV sport, said.

"The International Board has given us the opportunity to show what we can do. It's sad the home unions haven't had equal confidence. We offered more than was asked in the tender document and thought we had an unbeatable package. Regionalisation cannot possibly have been the reason we did not get it.

"We produced plans for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland which were far in excess of the coverage the BBC currently mounts. We intended a *Match of the Day*-type programme on Saturdays with a repeat on Sunday mornings for children and this was a mutual contractual agreement which had the backing of the whole of ITV."

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Buffalo still loves a loser

SIMON BARNES
ON SATURDAY

New York

The difference between the United States and England is that the Americans love winners and the English love losers. How about that for a generalisation? The game loser, the Frank Bruno figure, is an archetype of English life; the Americans preferred Mike Tyson — at least until he lost.

So what about Scott Norwood? Norwood is the Buffalo Bills kicker. He lost the Super Bowl for his team by missing a field goal in the last second of the game. Disaster and humiliation. This week, he returned to Buffalo and took part in a welcome-home rally for the defeated Bills. The master of ceremonies at the event was interrupted, and was unable to continue, as the crowd broke into incessant chanting: "We love Scott! We love Scott!" Norwood was forced to the microphone and said: "I've got to tell you right now, we're struggling with all this. I know I've never felt more loved than this right now."

Norwood said afterwards: "It's endless. It's like a whole city. It's heart-warming." Even his special-teams coach, Bruce DeHaven, said to him: "You didn't lose the game. If we had another chance in the same situation, I wouldn't want to go with anyone else." Norwood summed up this orgy of emotion with the line: "They say tough times never last, but tough people do. I'll be back."

Under pressure

All of the United States is presently enthralled with the tale of another all-American loser — Todd Marinovich, aged 21, the former quarterback for the University of Southern California. Marinovich is the product of a sporting parent. His father trained him like a racehorse; trained him from birth to be a quarterback.

He was doing stretching exercises at the age of one. Most of his youth was spent working out and throwing a football. Marvin Marinovich, the father, played for the USC college football team himself, and was briefly with the Oakland Raiders. Todd Marinovich fulfilled all his father's plans by becoming the USC starting quarterback in his first year. Then the disasters began.

His play went off the boil. He was suspended indefinitely from the team after missing a meeting and for his failure to register for classes. A fortnight ago, he was arrested and charged with possession of half a gram of cocaine and a small amount of marijuana. He was released on bail, and left jail weeping: "I've just blown my whole life away."

Speculation is now rife that Marinovich will leave college and declare himself available for drafting by the professional teams of the National Football League (NFL). Opinion within the NFL is firm that he needs more time, more education. His uncle was quoted as saying: "In the past, he has told his mother: 'I don't want to be Todd Marinovich'." Who can blame the poor fellow for that?

Super Bowl statistics. The crowd at Tampa Stadium last Sunday ate and drank 46,000 jumbo hot dogs, 13,000 soft pretzels, 10,000 boxes of popcorn, 8,400 bags of peanuts, 15,000 gallons of beer and 10,000 gallons of soft drink.

Off the track

There are odd problems for the children of Dearborn, Michigan — home of many people of Arab extraction. There were recently complaints from a parent about a high school wrestler who was parading about in a tracksuit with "Hussein" written on it. "She didn't think it was appropriate," a spokesman quoted in the *Detroit Free Press* said. "Well, that's the kid's name."

Black attack

Hot news from Italian football. This was a second-division match in the Campania championships between Pietraclina and Sant' Angelo Cupolo. It took place near Naples, as you would expect from a story like this. Sant' Angelo were 2-0 up with 15 minutes to go. The ref then sent off one of the Pietraclina players. The player was so incensed that he attacked the referee. The man fled. He ran around the field with the furious player running full-bore after him. The player, in his blind rage, then ran straight into a motor-bike. He badly injured an arm and a leg, and was taken off to hospital.

Frame game

The latest trend in American running events is to segregate the field not only by age but also by weight. This phenomenon is called the Clydesdale movement: Clydesdales being dray horses familiar to all Americans from Budweiser ads. "We don't want to handicap people who are overweight but to recognise excellence comes in different bodyframes, just like in boxing and wrestling," Joe Law, founder of the Clydesdale Runners Association, said. Most road running events are cut into elaborate age divisions, and most have a single category for runners over 200 pounds — that's 14st 4lb.

Clydesdale runners want far more age and weight categories inserted into these events. "I can't do 130 miles a week because of the pounding," Ted Thrasher, 14st 6lb, said. "I can't wear what you'd call racing flats for any length of time. I can't do as many miles and I have to have more cushioning, supportive type soles." I think this is all wonderfully democratic. How come sport has had this prejudice in favour of fit people for so long?

SCOTTS PORAGE OATS
PRODUCT RECALL

A limited number of packets of Original Scott's Porage Oats have been found to be below our normal quality standard due to a possible packaging fault.

The packets affected are the 375g and 750g packets featuring a "Wholesome Cook Book Offer". No other packets or products are involved. The contents when cooked could have an unpleasant bitter taste but there is no evidence of any health risk.

In keeping with the high standards rightly expected by our customers, we will be withdrawing all such packets from the trade.

Customers who have purchased these packets can throw the contents away and return the packet top together with their name and address to the Quality Control Manager, Dept. C, Scott's Porage Oats, A.&R. Scott, Cupar, Fife, KY15 4PD for a replacement voucher and full refund of postage.

Scott's Porage Oats apologises to customers for any inconvenience caused and pledges that replacement supplies will be back on the shelves in the very near future.

Independent retailers will be contacted in the next few days.

Chance to recharge the championship batteries

COMMENT

ROB ANDREW
(ENGLAND AND WASPS)

This is going to be an exhilarating year for English rugby. We have beaten Wales in our first game in the five nations' championship, we have a demanding summer tour of Australia, and then we go into the World Cup in the autumn. The public expectation for the England team is running high, and we in the squad are determined to match that expectation.

Today is our Saturday off in the championship, but it is still an important weekend for us. We meet tonight at Richmond, ready for a training session at Twickenham tomorrow. We will be talking over the Cardiff game and looking forward to the match against Scotland in a fortnight's time. And we will, no doubt, be looking at videos of the Ireland v France and Scotland v Wales matches this afternoon.

Before that, I will be having a rare afternoon off, watching Wasps against Sale (I took a bang on the leg against Leicester last week, so I will be carrying out my duties as club captain from the touchline). From Sudbury, it is only a 20-minute drive for me to Richmond. I am lucky to have such a short journey; others have quite a trek: for example, Wade Dooley has to fly down from Manchester on the Saturday night for these weekend sessions, and then go home on the Sunday after lunch.

It has become normal procedure for England to meet on a Saturday during the five nations' championship season, and it is not unusual for squad training to be held on the day after a big league or cup game, so our entire weekend is taken away from us. But playing for England more than compensates for that. I would not miss it for the world.

Although there are times when international players groan about the commitment that is required, I do not think you would find anyone in the England team who would exchange places with anyone outside it. We all know full well that there are hundreds of thousands of people who want to be where we are. After all, there is always the choice of dropping out if we feel we cannot cope with it.

I will want to take a particularly good look at the video of the Scotland-Wales game. I have seen the Scots only in the television highlights of their game against France (so a full video of that would be helpful, too).

The Welsh know that playing away from home in the five nations is very difficult, even for a side in good form. We felt the pressure in Cardiff, despite everybody in the squad playing down the business of our 28 years without a win there. Today, Wales will have to endure a crowd that is partisan and that has become used to Scottish success in recent years. The Murrayfield crowd gets right behind their side, as we found last year when we lost to the Scots in the grand slam decider. It was, without any question, the most highly-charged atmosphere I have been involved in.

Wales will have to face that, for a start — and they have to do it with a young side. At least they had the courage to stand by the same players who lost to us. That is good. They brought in a few surprise selections against England, but obviously Wales have decided that this is the way they are determined to go in World Cup year.

We must not forget that if Paul Thorburn had kicked a few of his penalties against us before half-time, it would have put more pressure on us. As it was, we got away and we could relax a little. So Wales were the ones who had to face the mental pressure of being behind. In the first half, we did not play particularly well; in the second, we thought we had the game under control.

Although there was a feeling that we could have opened up, we thought we were best served by making certain of a winning start in the championship.

To stand a chance of staying with Scotland today, Wales will need to start well, perhaps with a few penalty goals from Thorburn. The first 20 minutes of any international are the most difficult: there are nerves for most players (in fact, in Cardiff our players were as nervous as any had ever been).

The Welsh scrummaged well against England, which was a bonus for them as their scrummage had not been going well before. That one early scrum, when they pushed back our pack — which I am sure sticks in the memory of all Welshmen (it certainly stuck in my mind when the massive cheer came from the crowd) — will give them a lot of confidence.

The lineout is becoming more and more important: it is not so much how much ball you win but how much clean ball. England have won very good lineout possession in recent years but it is an area where Wales will have to tighten up to give Robert Jones a chance.

Scotland are a well-organised and well-coached side, and they have a lot of experienced players all through the side. They do not have any weaknesses, and I think they will have too much firepower for Wales.

Scotland's match against France in Paris two weeks ago appeared a torrid affair, and I am looking forward to seeing the French play the Irish. It should be riveting stuff. France seem to have gone back to their old way, with players appearing in their rightful positions, and with the hooker throwing in at lineout.

Rob Saunders has been thrown in at the deep end, being appointed captain of Ireland at the age of 22, and everybody will wish him well. He has been given a position of great responsibility, as Will Carling has with England. That is good, providing they stick by him with this new-look side and a reasonably new coach, in Ciaran Fitzgerald. Success does not always come immediately: remember that England lost their first two games under Geoff Cooke.

No doubt we will see another performance of pride and passion from the Irish, as we did when they ran the All Blacks so close last year. They will have been disappointed with their performance in their 20-18 win over Argentina, but that display will bear no resemblance to the way they play in the five nations.

The form book suggests France are favourites. It is a question of whether they will be ruffled by that Irish passion. We have seen Irish sides do well for 60 minutes and then succumb to the superior skills of the opposition.

But if there is going to be a turn-up today it could well be in Dublin, because we do not know how this French side will react if it is put under intense pressure.

The other item on the agenda this weekend is the Rugby Football Union's discussion with us, following our decision not to meet the press after the match in Wales. As players, our viewpoint is quite straightforward: we want clarification of the whole issue of what we can and cannot do under the International Board's new regulations on amateurism.

We want to put behind us what happened in Cardiff, so we can concentrate on the Scotland game — and the rest of this exciting year.

Greater experience in key areas is a Scottish trump card

By GERALD DAVIES

FOR this afternoon's match at Murrayfield, Scotland will want to prove that their defeat by France at Parc des Princes a fortnight ago was only a temporary blip and that such a setback, perhaps, is best forgotten as not being a reflection of their true capabilities. Wales, on the other hand, will want to remember their many good aspects against England and upon which they can safely build for the future. Scotland will want to recapture their form. Wales to maintain theirs.

With the grand slam out of their reach, Scotland can still aim for the triple crown while, for Wales, there is no such prize in view. The home team, though, will be uncomfortably aware that since there is already to be no repetition of last year's triumph, they will not wish to stage a further rehearsal of their misfortune of six years ago. After winning the grand slam in 1984 they suffered a whitewash the following year.

"The defeat against France was largely in our own hands," Ian McGeechan, the Scotland coach, said. "We created many good positions there, but because of unforced errors we did not make those chances count. Last year we did not let anything go seriously adrift. It was the first game of the season in Paris and we were far too loose. We will need to tighten our game this time around." Which is not the same thing, I assume, as to expect Scotland to play a tight game.

If so, it will come as a surprise to Ron Waldron, the Welsh coach, and others too, who expect Scotland to play a freer game in the open spaces. Which, if past experience is anything to go by, is the home side's strength. After experiencing the power of England in the set-pieces, Waldron is anticipating as he says "a new tactical experience for the players at Murrayfield."

The challenge from England came from the relentless pressure exerted by the stranglehold the forwards held in the set-pieces: controlled possession from the lineout led predictably to the next scrum. And so the rotation continued. Scotland will shift the emphasis to the relationship and the cohesion they invariably maintain between the back-row forwards and the midfield trio of stand-off half and centres. Not for them the narrow corridors down the touchline but rather to concentrate their play in the middle of the park

It is a pattern which does not stray too far, either, from Waldron's own mind and style. After all, he established as much when he coached his club at Neath and if, quite rightly, he is searching for greater flexibility of tactical options, it is the fluid running game he favours. Neither team is likely to want to get embroiled over much in the tight phases. If only one try was scored in the first international weekend of the season, amid the plethora of penalty and dropped goals, this disappointing pattern has every chance of changing today. In the last 11 fixtures between the two countries, 40 tries all told have been scored.

The telling factor, however, will ultimately be inexperience. Scotland can boast almost 100 caps among the forwards who have played in the five nations' championship, Wales only 19. In no area is this more significant than in the back row where the Welsh trio have only three between them whereas Turnbull, Jeffrey and White have 42. It is around such maturity in this vital area that the game will turn.

TODAY'S TEAMS AT MURRAYFIELD

Scotland			Wales	
A G Hastings (Watsonians)	15	Full back	P H Thorburn* (Neath)	15
A G Stanger (Hawick)	14	Right wing	I C Evans (Llanelli)	14
S Hastings (Watsonians)	13	Right centre	M G Ring (Cardiff)	13
S R P Lineen (Boroughmuir)	12	Left centre	J S Gibbs (Neath)	12
A Moore (Edinburgh Acad)	11	Left wing	S P Ford (Cardiff)	11
C M Chalmers (Melrose)	10	Stand off	N R Jenkins (Pontypridd)	10
G Armstrong (Jed-Forest)	9	Scrum half	R N Jones (Swansea)	9
D M B Sole* (Edinburgh Acads)	1	Prop	B R Williams (Neath)	1
J Allan (Edinburgh Acads)	2	Hooker	K H Phillips (Neath)	2
A P Burnell (London Scottish)	3	Prop	P Knight (Pontypridd)	3
D J Turnbull (Hawick)	6	Flanker	A J Carter (Newport)	6
C A Gray (Nottingham)	4	Lock	G D Llewellyn (Neath)	4
D F Cronin (Bath)	5	Lock	G O Llewellyn (Neath)	5
J Jeffrey (Kelso)	7	Flanker	G M George (Newport)	7
D B White (London Scottish)	8	No 8	P Arnold (Swansea)	8

*Captain

Referee: D J Bishop (New Zealand)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 P W Dods (Gala), 17 D S Wyllie (Stewart's Melville FP), 18 G H Oliver (Hawick), 19 G R Marshall (Selkirk), 20 D F Milne (Heriot's FP), 21 K S Milne (Heriot's FP)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 C J Bridges (Neath), 17 D W Evans (Cardiff), 18 A Clement (Swansea), 19 K Waters (Newbridge), 20 E Lewis (Llanelli), 21 M Griffiths (Cardiff)

● Scotland have won 40 of the 94 games between the two countries, Wales 52. But it is six years since Wales won at Murrayfield — which was also the season following a Scottish grand slam.

● Scotland's most commanding victory in the series which began in 1883 was that of 1924, at Inverleith, when they won 35-10 with Ian Smith — the "Flying Scot" — scoring three of his team's eight tries on his debut. Wales's best was at Cardiff in 1972, when they won 35-12.

DAVID HUTCHISON

Grim-faced business: Sole and McGeechan confer at Scotland's training yesterday

Fitzgerald to urge endeavour from Ireland newcomers

By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ANY side that includes six newcomers smacks of old-style selection; indeed it was 1958, against Australia, when Ireland last fielded a XV including so many first-time players. But Ireland will not mind looking back for inspiration against France, at Lansdowne Road today, if they can recover the passionate commitment which has been the traditional hallmark of their rugby.

Back to the future, as it were. Under the coaching of Jimmy Davidson, during the last three years, Irish rugby appeared uncertain, but Ciaran Fitzgerald's qualities as a captain will serve him well as coach, for his demand will be uncomplicated — that his players commit themselves to the cause. "Where is your pride?" he once demanded in the middle of a half-time huddle and rarely did his players fail to respond.

On the face of it, France should gather up their second five nations' championship win of the season in the match sponsored by Digital Equipment in Dublin. Unchanged since knocking over Scotland, the 1990 grand slam winners, last month, with experience to burn behind the scrum - Patrice Lagisquet passed a fitness test yesterday on an injured ankle - and burgeoning talent within it, they should hold the whip hand at all points. But the fact remains that at Lansdowne Road they seldom do.

Two years ago they trailed by 15 points before Franck Mesnel inspired a marvellous final quarter; in 1987 they conceded an early ten-point advantage and in 1985 both sides slugged out, sometimes literally, a 15-15 draw in which Michael Kiernan kicked five penalties. All of which suggests, reasonably accurately, an Irish capacity to "dog it" (in the expression beloved by forwards) for an hour before giving best to the side with the all-round class.

Today France have that in abundance. Ireland, by contrast, are none too sure what they have, save that there is a good feeling among the players, who have been working together to throw off the hangover of their indifferent 20-18 display against Argentina, in October. How that translates, particularly in the matter of winning primary possession, is another matter.

CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	1	1	0	0	25	6	2
France	1	1	0	0	15	9	2
Scotland	1	1	0	0	9	15	0
Wales	1	1	0	0	6	25	0
Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

PLAYED: January 19: France 15, Scotland 9; Wales 6, England 25.

GAMES TO COME: Today: Ireland v France; Scotland v Wales. February 16: England v Scotland; Wales v Ireland. March 2: France v Wales; Ireland v England. March 16: England v France; Scotland v Ireland.

LAST SEASON: January 20: England 23, Ireland 0; Wales 19, France 29. February 3: France 7, England 26; Ireland 10, Scotland 13. February 17: England 34, Wales 6; Scotland 21, France 0. March 3: Wales 9, Scotland 13; France 31, Ireland 12. March 17: Scotland 13, England 7. March 24: Ireland 14, Wales 8.

Olivier Roumat, the Dax lock and a basketball player before he began to concentrate on rugby, proved a notable stumbling block to the Scots in the lineout and height is not an obvious quality of this Irish side. The French scrum is solid enough to give Blond and Cabannes, the Racing men, a good base from which to fire off in support of their club colleagues in midfield.

There have been hints, though, of what the French expect. *L'Equipe* this week described the area which produced Mick Galwey, the new lock, as "une région rude et sauvage". Galwey and Brian Rigney have, after all, waited long for their first caps while the two new back-row men, Brian Robinson and Gordon Hamilton, are accustomed to success with Ulster.

It is their efforts, under the pack leadership of the experienced Phil Matthews, which will determine the kind of baptism that Rob Saunders will enjoy. The new Irish captain is only one of several gambles taken by the selectors, but that he has the capacity to play effective international rugby is not in dispute. Brian Smith will take some of the weight from his shoulders by calling the back moves, but it may be that much of the Ireland play will revolve around their scrum half and back row.

If they can rattle the French then they have Kiernan waiting the chance to pass 300 international points with his first score. If they do they must keep doing so and perhaps give Simon Geoghegan, the London Irish wing from St Edmund's College, Ware, the chance to show his paces in his first game. But France, if they survive their rude awakening, are the more likely victors.

New captain who is relishing the thrill of it all

By DAVID HANDS

THE first international rugby match Rob Saunders attended was Ireland's 22-16 victory over France at Lansdowne Road in 1983. He was 14. Ireland have not beaten the French since but when they resume the series in Dublin today Saunders will be egging them on, not from the terraces but from scrum half, the position from which he leads his country in his first international.

Michael Kiernan played in that 1983 match; so did Serge Blanco and Pierre Berbizier for France. All three are involved again today and Blanco — the player with more international appearances than any other — will be sharing the top table with Saunders at the official banquet, captains both. It is a remarkable story, the more so since last September Ireland appointed Donal Lenihan, the experienced British Lions lock, to be their captain for the international season — the first time such a long-term decision had been taken.

Almost inevitably, Lenihan was forced (by a severe shoulder injury) to withdraw from contention. His young successor has yet to meet him; indeed Saunders cheerfully admits a private conviction that when he was added to the training party which visited the Algarve at the end of December, Brian Smith had no idea who he was. Smith, the Leicester stand-off half, will be on the end of his pass today, for the first time in a match.

To come away from a conversation with Saunders is to be refreshed in one's sometimes jaundiced view of contemporary sport. He radiates everything that sport should be about but so frequently is not: the confidence, the enthusiasm, the blinding youthful happiness his present elevation has brought. "I can't imagine being in a more privileged position than I am at the moment. To play for your country is the greatest honour," he said.

"When I watched my first international I thought it must be the greatest feeling on earth. All I wanted to do was pull on the green jersey and run out there. But when I heard I was in the side it came as a surprise because I didn't think it would happen so quickly, and as captain . . .

"As captain I will be very low key. Ciaran [Fitzgerald, Ireland's coach] will be the major influence. My main priority is my own game, to lead by example. I want to let things develop rather than force the issue.

Saunders: tough baptism

"The Irish by nature are fairly unassuming people. We know we are not going to be world-beaters in one game or two games, we realise that. We look no further than the first game and, win or lose, we improve because we learn from it. Rugby in Ireland is a minority sport but if we, as a team can develop, then you catch the interest, the grass roots develop and players come through and a bit of pride is restored.

"At the moment I don't have the experience but I have the authority to weigh up the advice of the senior players, then make a decision. You never lose by listening to someone and I'm a great believer in bouncing ideas off each other. It's a team game. Great captains have always had great sides in which to play."

Saunders is one of those blessed by fortune with natural sporting ability, though in his case it may also be in the genes. Eric, his father, was a stand-off half with Leicester, Edinburgh Academicals and Harrogate; Christine, his mother, was a Scottish hockey trialist. Both parents have encouraged the ball skills of their only child, who was born in Nottingham but moved with the family to Belfast when he was four and accepted with alacrity the opportunities presented in the sports halls of the university campus where his father lectured.

The young Saunders might have opted for football (Northern Ireland youth trials), squash (Ireland under-16 team), athletics (Ulster Schools shot champion) or cricket (senior Ulster league). However rugby came to dominate his sporting priorities and, in his final year at Queen's University, Belfast, where he took a degree in political science, he played in a team he believes to have been the equal of any Irish club side.

The search for employment brought him to England. Ian Stevens, captain of London Irish, one of his prefects at the Royal Belfast Academy, enquired whether he was interested in working in London and one of the club sponsors offered him a post in their marketing department.

London has been good to him and he has been good for the Irish; he led a makeshift club XV against Queensland in December in a game which he describes as one of the most inspiring in which he has participated. "Queensland had ten internationals and, in my own mind, I had the apology speech ready for the after-match function. Then I said, hold on, this is crazy. If we look at them as individuals there's no point going out on the pitch.

"But what you lack in footballing ability you make up for in commitment. That's the attitude we took out with us and Queensland didn't know what hit them. We went down 16-6 and I thought it was absolutely superb. Give me 15 committed men. That's Irish rugby, together with a great pride in playing for your country."

TODAY'S TEAMS AT LANSDOWNE ROAD

Ireland			France	
K J Murphy (Constitution)	15	Full back	S Blanco* (Biarritz)	15
S P Geoghegan (London Irish)	14	Right wing	J-B Lafond (Racing Club)	14
B J Mullin (Blackrock College)	13	Right centre	F Mesnel (Racing Club)	13
M J Kiernan (Dolphin)	12	Left centre	D Charvet (Racing Club)	12
K J Hooks (Bangor)	11	Left wing	P Lagisquet (Bayonne)	11
B A Smith (Leicester)	10	Stand off	D Camberabero (Béziers)	10
R Saunders* (London Irish)	9	Scrum half	P Berbizier (Agen)	9
J J Fitzgerald (Young Munster)	1	Prop	G Lascubé (Agen)	1
S J Smith (Ballymena)	2	Hooker	P Marocco (Montferrand)	2
D C Fitzgerald (Lansdowne)	3	Prop	P Ondarts (Biarritz)	3
P M Matthews (Wanderers)	6	Flanker	X Blond (Racing Club)	6
M J Galwey (Shannon)	4	Lock	M Tachdjian (Racing Club)	4
B J Rigney (Greystones)	5	Lock	O Roumat (Dax)	5
G F Hamilton (NIFC)	7	Flanker	L Cabannes (Racing Club)	7
B F Robinson (Ballymena)	8	No 8	M Cecillon (Bourgoin)	8

*Captain

Referee: W D Bevan (Wales)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 J E Staples (London Irish), 17 V J G Cunningham (St Mary's College), 18 A C Rolland (Blackrock College), 19 N P Mannion (Lansdowne), 20 G F Halpin (Wanderers), 21 T J Kingston (Dolphin)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 P Saint-André (Montferrand), 17 T Lacroix (Dax), 18 H Sanz (Narbonne), 19 C Deslandes (Racing Club), 20 P Gimbert (Bègles-Bordeaux), 21 V Moscato (Bègles-Bordeaux)

● In the 63 matches between the countries, Ireland have won 25 and France 33. But in the last 15 years, Ireland have won only once with two draws — all in Dublin.

● Ireland's best victory was in Cork in 1913, when they won 24-0. On the other hand, last season's 31-12 defeat in Paris was the most points they have conceded in the series, though the heaviest defeat was that of 1976, when Ireland lost 26-3. Only six of the 1990 team play today.

● Rob Saunders is the fifth player to lead Ireland on his international debut: G. H. Stack did so against England (1875), W. C. Neville against Scotland (1879), H. G. Cook against Wales (1884) and J. S. Ritchie against France (1958).

● Serge Blanco, the France captain, is winning his 83rd cap.

MPs critical of laggard football clubs

By SHEILA GUNN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

FOOTBALL clubs will be criticised next week by a parliamentary enquiry for failing to co-operate in introducing the recommendations of Lord Justice Taylor's report into the Hillborough disaster.

The report of the home affairs committee is expected to demand reforms in the system for paying police authorities for controlling spectators, so as to ensure that these costs do not fall on those who pay poll tax, or the Treasury.

The 133-paragraph report, *Policing Football Hooliganism*, to be published next Tuesday, will back up Lord Justice Taylor's complaint in an interview with *The Times* yesterday about the reluctance of many clubs to share their grounds. It is likely to reflect the committee's dismay at the lack of urgency shown by representatives of the football authorities, who gave evidence to it, in implementing urgent ground improvements recommended by Lord Taylor.

While football's spokesmen emphasised the need for more money to fund the changes, the MPs want the authorities to take steps on their own initiative to improve facilities and make grounds safe for spectators.

The committee, chaired by the Conservative MP, Sir John Wheeler, found little enthusiasm for ground-sharing or for converting grounds into entertainment centres for the whole family. The MPs are likely to complain that, like Lord Taylor, they were horrified at the squalor at some grounds, particularly in lavatories and at entrances, with little in the way of improvement having been made since the death of 95 spectators at Hillsborough in April 1989.

With football-related costs to the police estimated to total £35 million a year, the report will recommend a system whereby clubs, through the use of their own stewards and officials, take over more responsibility for controlling spectators. Closed-circuit television is judged a success in deterring hooliganism inside grounds and the MPs will urge its more widespread use.

Up to 10,000 police officers are involved in controlling football followers every Saturday during the season. But the cross-party committee discovered a patchy system among police authorities in England and Wales for ensuring that their costs were recouped.

In particular, the report is expected to complain that the costs of police time in pre-match planning, patrolling public transport terminals and the area surrounding the grounds are not recovered.

Holmes is set for challenge to Bates

By IAN ROSS
and CLIVE WHITE

MAXWELL Holmes, a Leeds United director of ten years' standing, seems certain to challenge Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, for the vacant place on the Football League's management committee. He *is* understood to have the support of several leading clubs, among them Arsenal.

Holmes's surprising decision to seek election to football's most influential body will come as a relief to many League chairmen who feared Bates's application to return to the post he relinquished only four days ago would go unchallenged.

Bates resigned from the management committee on Tuesday but immediately put his name forward for re-election. His decision to step down was taken less than a month after Chelsea had been heavily fined by the League after being found guilty of making irregular payments to players.

Holmes emphasised, though, that if he stood it would not be in order to keep Bates out. "I've always been interested in administration — it's one of the talents I think I've got," he said yesterday.

"Arsenal have told me they would support me and I'll be talking to Tottenham tomorrow. A few people are mulling it over and will be ringing back," he added.

Bobby Charlton, the Manchester United director, has still to decide whether he will put himself foward. The closing date for applications is next Wednesday.

● A senior police officer yesterday denied that the West Yorkshire force was reponsible for cutting the allocation of tickets to Manchester United for the second leg of the Rumbelow's Cup semi-final at Leeds on February 27.

Chief Superintendent David Clarkson, who is in charge of policing at Elland Road, said: "There is no way I have said that I cannot police the south stand because of public disorder."

Lesley Silver, the chairman of Leeds, said the decision to make 2,500 tickets available to Manchester United out of a capacity of 31,000 was taken after consultations with the local force and safety officers.

● The Football Association of Ireland expect to receive about £1.65 million as their share from last summer's World Cup finals in which they reached the quarter-final round. Most of the money will go to the players.

Arsenal's power of recovery faces severe examination

By CLIVE WHITE

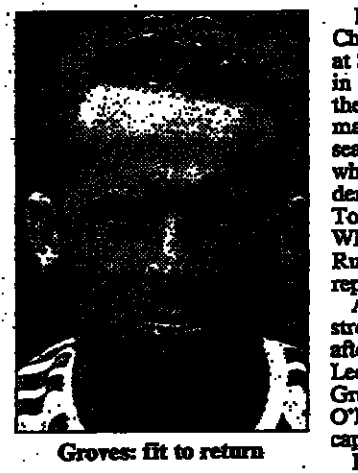
ALEX Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, believes that a victory over Liverpool in tomorrow's televised league match at Old Trafford would do the first division — and, of course, not least United — a huge favour by opening up the championship.

He may, however, have underestimated the prominent role of Arsenal who proved this week that they possess the quality and character to go on and make a one-horse race of it themselves — Liverpool style.

It is, after all, Arsenal, not the Merseysiders, who head the table; tradition, sometimes, is easily forgotten. By tonight, Arsenal may have increased that lead to four points and should United continue to hold the Indian sign over Liverpool the biggest benefactors in all of this would be George Graham's team.

But this is to pre-suppose that Arsenal will pass two of the last tests to be placed before this maturing side in a season that is turning out to be anything but a foregone conclusion. These are the tests of mental and physical strength, in which Arsenal's young team have been found to be wanting in four of the five seasons in which Graham has been in charge, the championship year being the obvious exception.

Arsenal habitually struggle on the weekend following a demanding midweek game, except in certain circumstances when their pride has been hurt, ie. the 6-2 Rumbelows Cup defeat by Manchester United (the only blemish on their record this season) after which they bounced back to beat Liverpool on the Sunday.



Groves: fit to return

They would have every excuse to show some physical or mental reaction to the rigours of a furiously demanding FA Cup fourth round replay at Elland Road against Leeds United on Wednesday, which went into extra time. It is here that the normal Liverpool would show their pedigree and Ferguson, for one, expected them to do so again after they also played a two-hour cup tie on Wednesday. Of course, they also have an extra day's rest.

While he was of the opinion that anyone can recover quickly from tired limbs so long as they win, he did add that Liverpool were used to playing twice a week and sustaining a high level of performance. "They're not kids, they're men, probably the most experienced in the league," he said.

If rest is preferable then Chelsea, who receive Arsenal at Stamford Bridge, should be in much better condition than their opponents for the demands of a local derby. Chelsea last played 10 days ago when they scored a notable derby triumph by beating Tottenham Hotpsur 3-0 at White Hart Lane in a Rumbelows Cup quarter-final replay.

At least, Arsenal should be stronger in some respects — after their epic struggle with Leeds — for the return of Perry Groves afer injury. David O'Leary, however, is still incapacitated

David Speedie, Liverpool's £675,000 midweek capture from Coventry City, is expected to make his debut in the north-west derby though Ferguson does not think that the fiery Scot, whom he knows well from his time as Scotland team manager, will make much of an impact. "Playing in this fixture for the first time, it's hard enough to keep in touch with the game without any special edge on it," he said.

WEEKEND TEAM NEWS

Barclays League
First division

Aston Villa v Derby
Platt (groin) is absent for Villa, but Daley, Olney and Mountfield are all expected to return. Derby are likely to field the side which lost at Sheffield United last week.

Chelsea v Arsenal
Durie (suspended) is absent for Chelsea so Stuart deputises in attack. If Cundy fails a late fitness test, Clarke will return to defence and Wilson is a likely substitute. Groves returns for Arsenal at the expense of Hillier. O'Leary is still absent so Linighan continues in central defence.

Tottenham v Leeds
With Howells (knee) sidelined, Tottenham recall Sedgley. Leeds are without Batty (suspended). Williams is the likely deputy. Sterland (calf) faces a late fitness test and Shutt is still absent. Haddock may move to mark Gascoigne.

Norwich v Man City
Mortensen, who is on the transfer list, is expected to start his first full game of the season for Norwich, with Smith stepping down to substitute. Allen (groin) faces a late fitness test for City; Heath stands by. Hendry and Hill could return.

Nottm Forest v C Palace
Keane and Hodge are fit to start for Forest. Palace are still without Thorn (suspended), so Thomas continues in defence. Barber could be recalled.

Everton v Sunderland
Everton are without Hinchcliffe (knee) and Ebbrell is likely to move to full back. Cottee is expected to start in attack. Sunderland welcome Kay back after suspension.

Wimbledon v Coventry
Fashanu is likely to be fit to return to the Wimbledon attack. Sutton, on loan from Nottingham Forest, replaces Ogrizovic (groin) in goal for Coventry.

Second division

Wolves v West Ham
Wolves play Birch, their £400,000 midweek signing from Aston Villa, on the right wing. West Ham are expected to field the side which beat Luton 5-0 in midweek.

Tomorrow

Man Utd v Liverpool
Phelan (ribs) faces a late fitness test for United; Martin stands by. Ince (groin) is still absent, and Wallace a substitute. Liverpool delay selection.

Platt injury adds to Venglos woes

By LOUISE TAYLOR

AS IF failing to sign David Speedie was not depressing enough, Aston Villa must face today's first division relegation contest at home to Derby County without David Platt.

It will be the first Villa game Platt has missed in two years, and with Dr Venglos's team only six points clear of a demotion position, his groin injury is inopportune. Should Villa lose to Derby, who are second bottom, Venglos may fear he will become another Midland managerial casualty.

Similarly, Terry Butcher, the beneficiary of one of those Midland dismissals — that of John Sillett at Coventry — faces a tough task away to a Wimbledon side which has lost just once in the league since Christmas.

Coventry are level on points with Villa, so Luton, Sheffield United and Sunderland will be hoping for a Wimbledon win. All three share the memory of 5-0 defeats at West Ham United in the past two seasons.

Luton's defeat came in an FA Cup replay last Wednesday. Now sixteenth, they need to recover at home to Queen's Park Rangers, who are two places and five points beneath them, and without an away win since October. With Jim Ryan, the Luton manager, describing his side's defence as "suicidal and shambolic", Kenilworth Road should crackle with nervous tension.

Sheffield United are bottom, but last Saturday's win over Derby narrowed a once yawning gap between Dave Bassett's team and the rest, and victory at home to Southampton today could take them off the floorboards. Sunderland, lying seventeenth, are at Everton, where Paul Bracewell, once a Goodison player, will want to impress.

A philosophy that is lost on the Leeds Bovril boys

LAURA THOMPSON

After the fifth person said it to me, I began to be impressed with my own bravery. *Particularly* when the fifth person said it to me. "You're going to Elland Road?" he gulped. "It's *terrifying*. The only time I ever went there someone poured a cup of boiling Bovril down my legs."

Yes, you will not find Leeds fans deploying any but the most vicious and masculine of weapons. Not knives, oh no no; not fists, nor bottles, nor boots with steel toecaps. Hot drinks, that is the Leeds way, and whole cupfuls of them.

After all these warnings, I did not like to say that I have never been remotely scared at a football match, not of the Boiling Bovril Boys, nor even of the Malted Milk Mob. If I were a man, I might be nervous (in fact, I might be terrified) but a woman is distanced from fear. Even though I know that the average football rowdy is capable of worse things than dousing people in Ovaltine, he still looks to me like a man-sized little boy having an impotent tantrum with anyone who will take him seriously enough to respond. He has identified his own fate with that of his football team and so, naturally, when the team loses he takes it personally and looks for someone upon whom he can blame and vent his misery.

The other thing about the football rowdy is that he loves an audience. Indeed, like an actor, he is lost without one. He found the perfect audience in the media which, even as they booed him vociferously, were making him very important and casting him as Attila the Hun as he conquered and marauded his way across Stamford Bridge and The Den and Elland Road.

The publicity accorded to hooliganism enabled him to find in it the *raison d'être* which he was so clearly seeking. Lately, however, media interest in him has waned. Football has changed its image: it is Gary "Vera Lynn"eker who signifies now, not Vinny Jones and his evil little haircut; and therefore the aberrant football rowdy is being ignored as much as is possible. This is much the best thing that could happen, for him and for the rest of us.

Still, if I wanted to meet an example of the species, then by all accounts, Elland Road was a good place to find him, perhaps in a cage marked "*Homo Yobbo*: Beware. Do not give this animal hot drinks." Accordingly, I quested round Leeds on the day of the Arsenal FA Cup replay, looking for anyone aggressive. The only person with whom I had any dealings all afternoon was a monk. He was raising money for charity and did not know about the football match.

Thwarted, I went to Elland Road and stood outside the ground for a while, waiting for the Big Bovril Fight to start. Nothing. I went into the ground and waited again. "Come on," I thought. "Get a bit worked up. Think of your reputation." But, of course, as soon as they did get worked up — at the moment when Arsenal ran on to the pitch to the loudest booing that I have ever heard — I longed for them to work down again.

My antipathy took the form of a rather prim distaste which entailed sitting like Mary Poppins in the midst of a crossfire of top decibel comic strip noises: "Aaaaggh!" (Leeds mistake); "Haaaggh!" (Arsenal mistake); "Naaaggh!" (Leeds player felled); and "Gwaaaggh!" (Arsenal player felled). "Leeeeeds!" screamed a man, like someone falling out of an aeroplane. "We are Leeds, we are Leeds" went the chant, and I yearned to correct them. "No, you are *not*. You merely *live* there."

The fans cared so much that it left me indifferent; the atmosphere was so relentlessly intense that it ceased to register. When absolutely everything matters, then nothing matters. But contrary to all the prophecies, I did not find these fans to be very different from any others.

Whatever form the football fanaticism takes — whether it be screaming like someone falling out of an aeroplane, throwing Bovril or hitting somebody very hard in the face — it all springs from the same truth that the sport is being made to symbolise more than it should.

Sport is frivolous fighting. Its purpose lies in the fact that it has no real purpose. There is a catharsis, a releasing flow of vicarious aggression, which will occur when a game is simply about which team performs better during an allotted time; and which will coagulate into an uneasy and destructive thrombus when the desired end is, instead, victory at any price.

CRICKET

De Silva's shining 203 sways match

WELLINGTON (Reuter) — A career-best and national record innings of 203 not out by Aravinda de Silva left Sri Lanka in control on the second day of the first Test match against New Zealand yesterday.

De Silva dispatched a mediocre home bowling attack to all corners of the Basin Reserve ground in an innings that included 33 fours and took Sri Lanka to 359 for three at stumps, a first-innings lead of 185 with seven wickets in hand.

It was the highest test score by a Sri Lankan, surpassing the 201 not out by Brendon Kuruppu against New Zealand in Colombo in the 1986-7 season.

Afterwards, de Silva said he wanted to show his sister, Araliya, living in Auckland that he could mount a big score. "She phones me most days, getting at me to get some runs," he said.

He obliged by batting for 352 minutes and facing 280 balls. His first 100 runs came from just 124 balls, in 171 minutes, and his second in 181 minutes, off 156 balls. He survived one chance, clipped to Mark Greatbatch at square leg when he was on 96.

The diminutive right-handed batsman said he also had a point to prove after disappointing scores in the past week in two one-day matches against New Zealand.

"I felt I had let my fans and my team-mates down in the one dayers and I was determined to get some runs in the Test," he said. "I'm feeling very tired, but I'm quite happy to forget the tiredness."

De Silva's mammoth score, delighting a small crowd in fine but windy conditions, exceeded his previous highest Test innings of 167 against Australia in Brisbane in the 1989-90 season.

Sri Lanka began the day at 41 for two. By the day's end, de Silva's outstanding batting and solid support from Asanka Gurusinha (70) and the captain, Arjuna Ranatunga (52 not out), swung the match overwhelmingly in the tourists' favour.

New Zealand's pace bowlers, Watson, Danny Morrison and Chris Pringle, struggled on the green wicket and too often bowled short and wide of the stumps.

New Zealand, who have never lost to Sri Lanka, face a tough task to save the Test.

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 174 (M D Crowe 30; R J Ratnayake 4-45, G F Labrooy 4-68).

SRI LANKA: First innings

C Senanayake c Smith b Watson	0
†H P Tillekeratne c Greatbatch b Morrison	21
A P Gurusinha c Crowe b Watson	70
P A de Silva not out	203
*A Ranatunga not out	52
Extras (nb 6, lb 7)	13
Total (3 wkts)	359

R S Mahanama, E A R de Silva, R J Ratnayake, G F Labrooy, H C P Ramanayake and J Warnaweera to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-41, 3-184.

BOWLING: Morrison 29-1-107-1 (nb 3); Watson 34-9-78-2 (nb 3); Pringle 22-3-94-0; Bradburn 16-2-38-0; Rutherford 2-0-11-0; Jones 2-0-6-0.

● John Crawley, the England Under-19 captain, and Toby Radford, the opening batsman, made use of a placid pitch to hit centuries in a three-day match against Auckland Under-20 at Eden Park.

England's hold was strengthened by a spell of two for five in seven overs by Mark Broadhurst, which reduced the Auckland side to 26 for three by the close of the first day.

SCORES: England Under-19 383 (J P Crawley 123, T A Radford 109); Auckland Under-20 26-3.

RUGBY UNION

Back to scrummaging after Cooke verdict

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

SEVERAL members of England's squad rest from their labours today before gathering this evening in Richmond to meet Michael Pearey, the Rugby Football Union president, who will convey to them the sentiments of yesterday's RFU executive committee meeting.

The committee agenda included the failure in Cardiff last month of the team management to meet the media after the Wales-England match, which has resulted in calls for the head of Geoff Cooke, though a move to oust the manager would be inappropriate and counter-productive; a redefinition of managerial responsibilities, however, would be in order.

The squad, less Dean Richards, the Leicester No. 8 who is on holiday, trains at the Stoop Memorial ground tomorrow morning, with an emphasis on scrummaging. The XV to play Scotland on February 16 is due to be announced on Monday — as is the B team to play Italy at Waterloo on February 13 — but the senior side may be delayed should the selectors choose to give John Hall longer to prove his fitness.

Hall, the Bath flanker, was added to the squad this week along with John Buckton (Saracens) and plays against Coventry today, his first senior match since the knee operation three weeks ago which removed him from contention for the national side that played Wales. He will be joined by Stuart Barnes, Bath's captain, who plays his first game since November 24 having now recovered from a groin injury.

Four of Harlequins's present internationals play today against London Welsh, who have confirmed that John Dawes, the former Wales and British Lions captain and coach, will take over player development and coaching strategy at Old Deer Park next season, with Bill Calcraft, the former Australian flanker, as first-XV coach.

The biggest crowd of the day in England will be at Redruth, where Cornwall play Warwickshire in the semi-finals of the ADT county championship. Some 11,000 will pack the ground to see a XV, unchanged save for the inclusion of Chatterton at centre, challenge for its second final in three years.

Warwickshire have been forced by injury to bring in Reid, the Nuneaton full back, and give Pickup, the Warwick University student, a game at No. 8 in place of the injured Robbins. Middlesex, who lost to Cornwall 25-12 in their final group match in December, have reshaped their pack for the other semi-final, against Yorkshire at Otley.

They have introduced the Wasps locks, O'Leary and Kinsey, in the hope of denying the dangerous Yorkshire backs possession. But Yorkshire have Liley restored to full back to kick goals for them.

Welsh student double

YESTERDAY'S student international match at Goldenacre, between Scotland and Wales, did much to exemplify the spirit of rugby at this particular level by producing seven tries in an open game full of fluent play (Alan Lorimer writes).

Five of the tries were scored by the Welsh, who won by 34 points to 17. Considering the amount of possession they achieved up front, they ought to have run in several more. As it was two of their tries came from pushover efforts by their powerful pack, who were much stronger in the set-pieces.

SCORERS: Scottish Students: Tries: C Redpath, R Shepherd. Penalties: Shepherd (2). Dropped goal: Shepherd. Welsh Students: Tries: I Bebb (2), A Booth (2), S Barclay. Conversion: Bebb. Penalty goals: Bebb (3), K Price.

● Welsh Universities ran in four tries while defeating Scottish Universities 20-6 in yesterday's match at St Andrews. Ritchie, the Welsh No. 8, claimed two touchdowns from pushovers. Fryer, the scrum half and the left wing, Mynott, were the other Welsh scorers.

SPORT ON TV

Boat Race may lose its listing

By PETER BALL

THE Boat Race and Wimbledon tennis could both lose their positions on the limited list of leading national sports events which, at the moment, cannot be sold exclusively to a satellite television company for transmission on a pay channel.

Although Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, reaffirmed on Monday the government's decision to retain some protection for sport's main national events, the list is still under discussion. Sport's governing bodies have until February 28 to respond to the Home Office consultation document, which suggests that both the Boat Race and Wimbledon could be released on to the open market.

This would be a significant switch in policy but, with ITV having fundamentally changed their position by now advocating the abolition of the list, there is less pressure on the government to maintain the restrictions.

Cricket and football both believe that the restriction is counter to the government's beliefs in free competition. "It is a total anomaly," Glenn Kirton, the Football Association's head of external affairs, said.

"I think it is 99 per cent probable that we would not take the FA Cup final off a terrestrial channel, anyway, because we are aware of the PR dimension as well as the commercial one. It would be a retrograde step in terms of promoting the game."

The Test and County Cricket Board's line is likely to be similar. It has not yet met to formulate its reply to the government document but, although it does not see a move to a pay channel as likely in the immediate future, it, too, may decide to try to have Test cricket removed from the list.

The most surprising aspect has been the change in ITV's thinking. It was believed that the BBC and ITV spoke with one voice on the matter but that has now changed.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP: Quarter-final pools: Men: Aris Salonika (Gr) 98, Scavolini Pesaro (It) 95; Limoges (Fr) 73, Pop '84 Split (Yug) 84; Maccabi Tel Aviv 101, Bayer Leverkusen 102. Women: Arvika (Swe) 91, Sporting Athens 52; Elektrosila Leningrad 86, Cesena (It) 79; Saiger Zaragoza 82, Asterac Mirande (Fr) 80.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Barcelona (Sp)	7	6	1	633	558	13
Aris Salonika (Gr)	7	5	2	645	615	12
Scavolini Pesaro (It)	7	4	3	634	611	11
Jug Split (Yug)	7	4	3	572	585	11
Leverkusen (Ger)	7	4	3	599	658	11
Maccabi T Aviv (Isr)	7	3	4	584	606	10
Limoges (Fr)	7	1	6	578	640	8
Kingston (Eng)	7	1	6	556	618	8

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Men: Quarter-final pool: Hapoel Galil (Isr) 82, CAI Zaragoza 80.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Washington Bullets 107, New York Knicks 98; Seattle Supersonics 97, Houston Rockets 94; San Antonio Spurs 108, Chicago Bulls 102; Denver Nuggets 128, New Jersey Nets 119; Utah Jazz 105, Portland Trail Blazers 91; Golden State Warriors 135, Los Angeles Clippers 119; Los Angeles Lakers 116, Atlanta Hawks 103.

BOWLS

YETTON TROPHY: (women's club championship): Fifth round: Thornaby 80, York 76; Spalding 70, St Neots 78; Norfolk and Norwich 86, Essex County 85; Picketts Lock 81, Stevenage 86; Thamesdown 68, King George 87; Croydon 102, Folkestone 73; Eastbourne 58, Atherley 105; Bristol 85, West Cornwall 86.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: New South Wales 475-4 dec (T H Bayliss 163, M Bevan 108 not out, M D O'Neill 101 not out, S R Waugh 81); Western Australia 112-6 (M R J Veletta 61).

HAY, Australia: Club Cricket Conference 221-7 (A Langley 91, S N V Waterton 60); Hay District 173-8 (M Steer 4-23). Club Cricket Conference won by 48 runs.

TOUR MATCH: Kent Under-17 226 and 159-9 (M Fletcher 63 not out); Auckland Under-17 135-3 dec (R Lees 70 not out) and 162-7 (S Santch 67). Match drawn.

FOOTBALL

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Dundalk 2, Shelbourne 0. Leading positions: 1, Cork City, pl 22, 33pts; 2, St Patrick's Athletic, 21, 32; 3, Dundalk, 21, 31.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Sheffield Wednesday 1, Leicester 0; Coventry 0, Nottingham Forest 6; Leeds 0, Huddersfield 0. Second division: Blackpool 0, Hull 4.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Boston Bruins 5, Montreal Canadiens 2; Quebec Nordiques 4, Buffalo Sabres 1; Washington Capitals 4, New York Islanders 3 (OT); Philadelphia Flyers 4, Pittsburgh Penguins 2; St Louis Blues 4, Hartford Whalers 3 (OT); Vancouver Canucks 3, New York Rangers 3 (OT).

NORDIC SKIING

ZWIESEL, Germany: British nordic skiing championships: Biathlon sprint: Men (10km): 1, T Woods (Slough), 30:26.07; 2, K Rudd (York), 31:18.09; 3, J Sidener (Cheltenham), 31:38.05. Women (5km): 1, L MacKenzie (Strathspey), 23:39.01; 2, T Edwards (Army), 25:48.04; 3, D Chamberlain (WRAF), 26:06.01.

RUGBY FIVES

CLUB MATCHES: Christ's Hospital 86, Tonbridge 128; Wessex 102, RFA 91. SCHOOLS MATCHES: Bloxham Under-15 83, Merchant Taylors' 118; Colts 71, Merchant Taylors' 129; Rutlish 74, Sutton Valence 183.

GOLF

PEBBLE BEACH: Men's tournament: First-round leaders: (all US): 65: M Standly. 66: J Cook, B Claar. 67: L Rinker, D Love III, J Maggert, L T Broeck, P Azinger. 68: J Haas, J Daly, C Perry, R Thompson, J Delsing, T Kite, K Triplett. 69: R Mediate, H Irwin, D Tewell, P Stewart, J Sutherland, E Woods, B Britton. British: 71: A Lyle. 75: H Clark.

SINGAPORE: Dunhill Cup qualifying tournament: Leading second-round scores: 279: Italy. 282: Thailand, Sweden, Paraguay, Argentina. 283: Canada. 284: Taipei, South Korea, Denmark.

JAKARTA: Indonesian open: Women's tournament: Second-round leaders: 142: L Ann Mills (US), 72, 70. 145: Li Wen Lin (Taiwan), 73, 72. 146: C Nishida (Japan), 72, 74. 147: Tai Yu Chuan (Taiwan), 70, 77. British: 151: S Strudwick, 74, 77.

LAKE WORTH, Florida: Women's tournament: Leading first-round scores: (US unless stated): 65: D Mochrie. 66: M Mallon, S Sanders, J Dickinson. 67: B Lauer. 68: C Rarick, D Andrews, C Walker, J Stephenson (Aus). British: 73: C Pierce. 74: S Lowe.

GOLD COAST, Australia: Women's tournament: First-round leaders: 71: H Alfredsson (Swe). 72: S Smyers (Aus). 73: H Hisako (Japan), H Hopkins (Aus). 74: J Sevil (Aus), Elo-Shyun Huang (Taiwan), Chen Li-Ying (Taiwan), F Purser (Aus), C Yamazaki (Japan), J Shearwood (Aus). 75: M Burstrom (Swe), Y Moriguchi (Japan). British: 82: D Reid.

SAN LORENZO, Algarve: Men's tournament: Final scores: 288: N Brown (Mid Herts), 76. 289: M Sludds (unattached), 67. 290: K Brown (Harpenden Common), 76. 290: H Stott (Shirley Park), 71, D Butler (Coombe Wood), 73, G Gray (Dumfries and County), 70.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE: First division: Leigh 18, Warrington 48.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Merchiston Castle 28, St John's (Arg) 6.

OTHER MATCHES: Musselburgh 3, Gala 43; Marr 28, Bridgend 6; Students international: Scotland 17, Wales 34. University international: Scotland 6, Wales 18. Veterans international: Scottish Golden Oldies 34, Welsh Golden Oldies 24.

STUDENT SPORT

COMMERCIAL UNION UAU CHAMPIONSHIPS: Quarter-finals (in draw order): Football: Cardiff 1, Warwick 2; Hull 0, Essex 0 (aet; 2-4 on pens); Loughborough 6, Liverpool 1; Surrey 2, Reading 1 (aet). Rugby Union: Nottingham 8, Exeter 20; Durham 10, Swansea 17; Loughborough 45, City 7; Warwick 12, Cardiff 18. Hockey: Men: Exeter v King's postponed; Loughborough 4, Brunel 1; Nottingham 1, Durham 5; Bristol 8, Lancaster 0. Women: Warwick 1, Exeter 2; Loughborough 7, Surrey 0; Leeds 2, Swansea 1; Birmingham 3, Manchester 1. Basketball: Men: Semi-finals: Birmingham 65, Exeter 57; Loughborough 77, Manchester 40. Final: Birmingham 59 (Stephenson 22), Loughborough 57 (Roper 27). Women: Semi-finals: Loughborough 74, Bristol 47; Swansea 46, Newcastle 48. Final: Loughborough 89 (Cooke 31), Newcastle 61 (Barnett 23).

TENNIS

TOKYO: Women's tournament: G Sabatini (Arg) bt S Graf (Ger), 4-6, 6-4, 7-6; M J Fernandez (US) bt N Miyagi (Japan), 6-2, 6-0.

AUCKLAND: Women's tournament: Quarter-finals: A Strnadova (Cz) bt L Savchenko (USSR), 6-4, 6-1; C Tessi (Arg) bt D Faber (US), 6-4, 7-5; E Sviglerova (Cz) bt S Hack (Ger), 6-7, 7-5, 6-1.

DAVIS CUP: World group: First round: Christchurch: Argentina lead New Zealand, 2-0. Perth: Australia lead Belgium, 2-0. African zone: First round: Nairobi: Kenya lead Congo, 2-0.

IN BRIEF

Visa errors bar Soviets

SEVEN leading Soviet Union athletes have pulled out of the Pearl Assurance national indoor championships at RAF Cosford this weekend because their visa forms were incomplete.

The party included the European triple jump champion, Leonid Voloshin, the world indoor sprint hurdles record holder, Lyudmila Narozhilenko, and the European 200 metres bronze medal winner, Galina Malchugina.

CRICKET: The Tasmanian fast bowler, David Gilbert, has signed a one-year contract for Gloucestershire as their overseas player.

YACHTING: John Nicholls, the yachting correspondent of *The Times* from 1970 until 1986 an outstanding yachtsman himself, died on Thursday, aged 59.

Obituary, page 12

ICE HOCKEY: In changes to the play-offs, this season and next, the top eight teams in the Heineken premier division compete in two four-team groups with the top two in each moving onto Wembley. The remaining two premier division teams join the top six from the first division with the winner of each four-team group getting a premier division place.

TENNIS: Steffi Graf, the world No. 1, was yesterday defeated by Gabriela Sabatini, the No. 5 seed, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6, in a quarter-final of the Toray Pan Pacific Open tournament in Tokyo.

MOTOR SPORT: Damon Hill succeeds Mark Blundell as the official test driver for the Canon Williams Formula 1 grand prix team. Hill will this season also compete in Formula 3000.

BOXING: Steve Boyle, from Glasgow, the former British lightweight champion, meets Antonio Renzo, in Rossano Calabro, Italy, on March 23, for the vacant European title.

SKIING: Megeve, in Haute Savoie, hosts the Portakabin and Courage British international services alpine championships which begin tomorrow.

CYCLING: Darryl Webster tomorrow returns to amateur time-trials, in the Kettering Friendly 20 miles, after a year's obligatory absence following a brief professional career.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Hull feel the pressure from western chasers

By KEITH MACKLIN

AFTER their surprise dismissal from the Silk Cut Challenge Cup against Sheffield Eagles in midweek, the league leaders, Hull, must be feeling the threat from Widnes, Wigan, and Castleford as Hull attempt to break the championship stranglehold of teams from west of the Pennines.

Hull should have no difficulty tomorrow beating the bottom club, Rochdale Hornets, but their remaining fixtures present the formidable obstacles of visits to Wigan and Widnes.

Wigan are showing signs of returning to their best form and after the convincing win at Widnes the coach, John Monie, chooses the same squad for the home game today with Hull Kingston Rovers.

Widnes have a home game tomorrow with the strugglers, Wakefield Trinity, and their newly-capped Great Britain international forward, Holliday, is doubtful with a knee injury.

Castleford, who have won their last five league matches, have played several games more than Wigan and Widnes, and must beat Leeds tomorrow to retain a realistic title chance. A victory will surely extinguish Leeds's championship ambitions.

Warrington continued their revival by taking a point in an exciting game with Leeds in midweek, and they will expect to continue their run with a home game against the below form Bradford Northern. Sheffield Eagles can increase their slim hopes of avoiding relegation with home victory against Featherstone Rovers.

St Helens will expect to continue their own run of success by winning at Oldham, who are slipping deeper and deeper into relegation trouble.

SNOOKER

Hendry earns support for unique treble

STEPHEN Hendry, the world champion who this season won a record 31 successive matches and five titles before losing twice in a row to Jimmy White, meets John Virgo, the world No. 15, at Wembley Conference Centre tomorrow (Steve Acteson writes).

Hendry is trying to become the first player to win the Benson and Hedges Masters, worth £350,000, three years in succession. Although White has won three consecutive tournaments in six weeks, the bookmakers have made the Scot 6-4 favourite at Wembley.

"It is important to get back to winning titles again because losing can become a habit. If I need any incentive then I only have to think that nobody has won the Masters three times in a row before," Hendry, who plays for a place for a place in the last eight, said.

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Solo sailors are off to round the Horn

From BARRY PICKTHALL IN SYDNEY

THE skippers in the BOC single-handed round the world yacht race will set sail from Sydney tomorrow for the third and perhaps harshest stage, 7,200 miles around Cape Horn to Punta del Este, Uruguay.

The contest for overall honours centres on three men: John Martin, aged 35, of South Africa, who set a blistering pace across the Southern Ocean from his native Cape Town and leads by 16-and-a-half hours; the Frenchman, Christophe Auguin, the first-stage winner, who is now in second place; and another Frenchman, Alain Gautier, who is a further nine hours astern.

Philippe Jeantot, the pre-race favourite who has won the two previous BOC marathons, trails three-and-a-half days behind the leader and can only shake his head when confronted with the margin he must overcome. "The winds have never been more than 25 knots. My boat needs much stronger conditions to be competitive," he said.

In a race where outside assistance in the form of shore-based weather routing has played an important role, Jeantot has not been in the right place at the right time.

Martin, whose 60ft yacht, Allied Bank, was leading the first stage from Newport, Rhode Island, until his radio packed up nine days from the finish to rob him of vital tactical information, is relying on the guidance of Jean Yves Bernot, the Frenchman who helped Jeantot to victory in the last BOC race.

This week, Martin took me for a sail aboard his saucer-shaped yacht to show how mechanical design and efficiency have upstaged the battle between man and the elements that characterised earlier solo circumnavigations.

"My fastest noon-to-noon run through the Southern Ocean was 308 miles, but during one 18-hour stretch we averaged 14 knots until the staysail broke. If we get the right conditions for long enough, a 340-mile day is possible," Martin said.

The bench mark is 320 miles, a record average of 13.35 knots, set by Gautier during the last leg; this compares with the 327 miles set by the fully crewed Dutch maxi, Flyer, in the Whitbread Round the World Race ten years ago. The latest Whitbread maxis are now nudging the 400-mile barrier but they have 13 to 17 people onboard and a 20ft length advantage.

Martin and his rivals have help to hoist their sails before the start and they stay that way, roller-furled, ready for use, until reaching Uruguay.

"If I have problems with the sails, then it will slow me down enormously. The mainsail weighs 180kg. To replace it with the spare will take at least six hours. If I lose a headsail, it may be two days before the weather becomes calm enough to take it down and hoist another," Martin said.

The continuing problem for all the skippers is the autopilots. Martin burned out five during the 7,000-mile crossing from Cape Town. His answer has been to invest in eight and hope that one of them will see him through.

Among the smaller yachts, Yves Dupasquier, of France, in his 50ft Servant IV holds a five-and-a-half-day lead over Don McIntyre's renamed Australian entry, Buttercup, followed by Britain's Josh Hall, a further 31 hours behind. In the Corinthian class, Paul Thackaberry, of the United States, holds a lead of nearly three days over Robin Davie's Cornish entry, Global Exposure.

LEADING POSITIONS (after 13,000 miles): Class 1: 1, Allied Bank (J Martin, SA), 64 days 2hr 36min; 2, Groupe Sceta (C Auguin, Fr), 64:18:45; 3, Generali Concorde (A Gautier, Fr), 65:7:37; 4, Credit Agricole (P Jeantot, Fr), 67:12:43; 5, Duracell (M Plant, US), 69:10:18; 6, Jarkan (K Birtles, Aus), 69:19:38; 7, Ecureuil PC (I Autissier, Fr), 73:20:27; 8, Innkeeper (D Adams, Aus), 73:23:48; 9, Grinaker (B Reed, SA), 74:14:54; 10, BBV Expo '92 (J de Ugarte, Sp), 74:20:3. Class 2: 1, Servant IV (Y Dupasquier, Fr), 75:3:48; 2, Buttercup (D McIntyre, Aus), 80:17:28; 3, New Spirit of Ipswich (J Hall, GB), 82:0:51; 4, Project City Kids (J Boye, US), 83:05:32; 5, Koden VIII (Y Tada, Japan), 101:12:11. Corinthian class: 1, Volcano (P Thackaberry, US), 94:17:28; 2, Global Exposure (R Davie, GB), 97:12:32; 3, Shutendohji II (M Saito, Japan), 106:8:25.

● Three skippers decided yesterday to delay their departure on the third stage.

Robert Hooke, the London-based American banker, is still putting the finishing touches to repairs carried out to his Corinthian class, Niihau 4, while Hal Roth, a fellow-American, who arrived here on Thursday after spending almost ten weeks at sea, is also taking a breather. Yesterday, Roth, aged 63, said: "I'm exhausted. I could sleep for a week, and my boat is not ready."

The third non-starter is Yukoh Tada, of Japan, who has a back injury. But he should be ready in a few days.

Race leader: John Martin, of South Africa, in the cockpit of his yacht, Allied Bank

SKIING

Schneider reminds Alpine women she is still a champion

From BRIAN JAMES IN SAALBACH

WITH the queen of all disciplines, Petra Kronberger, limping around the edges of the world championship, another of the greats, Vreni Schneider, came from the depths of her recent despair to snap all other women ski-racers back in their place. It was just when they were thinking it was safe to go back on the slopes.

Before her winning run, an outbreak of democracy seemed to have hit the leader board, with two Yugoslavs and a French lady perched precariously above the Alpine contingent. Natasa Bokal, of Yugoslavia, indeed, clung there to take the silver medal, but that was as near to daftness as Schneider allowed the result to get.

Schneider's gold medal in the slalom yesterday, after her unexpected bronze in the combined event, ends all talk of her day being done. That day goes back years, embraces four world and Olympic titles in the slaloms and scores of world cup victories. But it had seemed to be approaching its evening when injury last year dragged on, and this season she had mounted only a fitful challenge to Kronberger.

Allowing a garage door to fall on her leg last week, losing her ski-expert to an illness, then hitting herself in the face with a pole yesterday, could have seemed part of a message from the fates. Champions do not think that way.

Schneider came out of a sort of wigwam to start her morning run, made an immediate mistake and was only fifth at the intermediate point. "So I went for broke" to head the first-heat field.

In the second run, an Austrian crowd, made seriously over-excited by earlier championship victories, jeered when its Olympic champion, Anita Wachter, failed to knock a German off an early lead. It jeered again when Maierhofer, a brave seventh at lunch, then failed to match two Yugoslavs. It grew wildly shrill when the third of its team, Ingrid Salvenmoser, led at halfway, but met with a stony silence her failure to take the lead from Bokal.

Only Schneider of the seeds left to race came swooping down, leaving every struck pole waving in her wake as if applauding. Like Old Father Thames she never seemed to hurry but got there just the same in a total time of 1min 25.9sec.

Was she thinking of quitting, someone asked her. "I don't think I go on another 10 years," this cool 26-year-old said, "but I would like more medals for my collection now of eight."

Bokal, aged 23, who takes a silver medal back to Slovenia, was a student at a sports school, where they churn out PE mistresses, when she took up skiing four years ago to try to build up an injured knee. Have a go at racing, some Slav official suggested, and she sort of drifted towards this championship podium from there.

Claire de Pourtales, of Britain, ("I took a year out before university to ski, and got hooked") did well enough on her clear learning-curve to finish 21st. But the difference between our near-best and their average remains chasmic. In the morning, Lesley Beck and Val Scott both made mistakes in the first seconds and were among the 25 given no second chance by the ice.

RESULTS FROM SAALBACH

SLALOM: 1, V Schneider (Switz), 1min 25.90sec; 2, N Bokal (Yug), 1:26.08; 3, I Salvenmoser (Austria), 1:26.56; 4, F Masnada (Fr), 1:27.30; 5, K Pusnik (Yug), 1:27.53; 6, P Wiberg (Swe), 1:27.55; 7, P Chauvet (Fr), 1:27.60; equal 8, A Drexl (Ger), 1:27.73 and H Voelker (US), 1:27.73; 10, K Andersson (Sw), 1:27.90. British: 21, C De Pourtales 1:31.26.

● Mark Croasdale, of Lancaster, completed a championship double in Zwiesel, Germany, yesterday when taking the 30km cross-country title at the British championships to add to his 15km win on Wednesday. The third finisher, Ed Nichols, from Preston, and Louise MacKenzie, of Aviemore, who was first across the line in the women's 20km title race, were disqualified for going into skating style before crossing the 100 metre marks.

RESULT: Men's 30km: 1, M Croasdale (Lancaster), 1hr 19min 33.5sec; 2, D Brown (Bucks), 1:21:30.7; 3, N Danby (Hull), 1:21:43.7. Women's 20km: 1, T Edwards (Army), 1:09:28.6; 2, K Knell (Army) 1:11:58.7; 3, J McCausland (Army), 1:14:39.8.

HOCKEY

Southgate turn to youth as Kerly plays for England

By SYDNEY FRISKIN

WHILE **England** challenge **Australia** in two indoor matches at Dulwich College today and tomorrow, the Poundstretcher National League resumes with a two-day programme which does not involve the two leading teams in the first division – **Havant and East Grinstead.**

Southgate have decided to carry on without Kerly, who is playing indoors for England, and are persevering with their younger talent. However, Castenskiold's knee injury makes him a doubtful starter against **Hounslow** tomorrow. Hounslow are at full strength except for Hazlitt, who has returned to military duty.

At the bottom of the table, **Wakefield** – a better side than most people think – face two daunting tasks. After playing Southgate in London today, they rush back to host **Indian Gymkhana** tomorrow. Gymkhana are still unbeaten and making a bold attempt at the title. If Wakefield lose both matches, relegation will be difficult to avoid.

The position at the head of the second division seems unlikely to be altered with **Cambridge City**, the leaders, facing a comparatively easy task against **Doncaster** and second-placed **Bournville** visiting **Taunton Vale**, who have lost all eight matches they have played. Trojans could find life a little more difficult against a much improved **Harborne** team, for whom Betts has scored eight goals in nine maches.

England's indoor matches against Australia will prepare both teams for the World Invitation Indoor Classic in Glasgow from February 8 to 10. Australia have brought three of their most experienced indoor campaigners – Barry McIntosh, the captain, John Campbell and Peter Huk.

They finished only fifth in the recent HDM tournament at The Hague in The Netherlands. The winners were Spain, who should be strong contenders in Glasgow

Injuries hamper final selection for squad

ENGLAND will start the countdown to the European Cup tomorrow with the announcement of the final squad of 16. The selectors will make the decisions following a training and assessment weekend at Bisham Abbey (Alix Ramsay writes).

The selectors' task will not be made any easier by injuries. Both Sue Chandler and Kirsten Spencer are recovering from knee injuries, while Jane Smith broke a finger last weekend.

"Experience tells me you don't name injured players because it puts pressure on them to come back too quickly," the manager, Jenny Cardwell, said. "But it is a difficult decision, both Sue and Kirsten are on the fringe of the team and it is a case of whether the selectors have already seen enough."

Cardwell is confident England have the players to match anybody, but adds: "We need time and to have time you need money," she said.

Facing the likes of the Dutch, who can afford to spend £250,000 on the international season, Cardwell does not believe England will break into the top ranks until the game is better funded.

"I truly believe we have the players and they have my admiration for their dedication, but we need a professional management team and players who can take time off work and still afford to pay the mortgage," she said.

TENNIS

A touch of Cane unsettles Becker

BORIS Becker, the new world No. 1, overcame a hesitant start to beat Paolo Cane 3-6, 6-1, 6-4, 6-4 yesterday, giving Germany a 1-0 lead over Italy in their first-round Davis Cup world group tie at Dortmund (Reuter reports).

The German, who took the top-ranked position when he beat Ivan Lendl in the Australian Open final on Sunday, was outplayed by the battling Cane, ranked 130th, in the first set despite having several chances to break Cane in his first two service games.

But Becker found his touch on the fast indoor surface to take the second set with ease and went on to win in just over two-and-a-half hours.

Australia moved into a 2-0 lead over Belgium in their group tie in Perth, with Richard Fromberg and Wally Masur winning the singles. Fromberg, aged 20 and ranked world No. 32, stuttered badly in the third set before beating Philip Dewulf 6-4, 6-3, 1-6, 6-4. He took control when breaking Dewulf's serve in the third game of the first set and continued to dominate in the second, breaking Dewulf's service twice.

In the third set, a recharged Dewulf broke Fromberg for the first time and struck again in the third game to lead 3-0. He held his own service for 4-0 before Fromberg finally won a game.

With his confidence draining fast, Fromberg made a series of elementary errors, but advice from the Australia captain, Neale Fraser, put him back on course.

Masur toppled the Argentine-born Eduardo Masso 6-3, 6-3, 6-1. "I simply played serve and volley tennis and he was forced to attack which is not his natural game," Masur said.

Argentina won the opening two singles matches against New Zealand in Christchurch in straight sets. Martin Jaite beat Brett Steven, 7-5, 6-2, 6-2 and Javier Frana saw off Kelly Evernden, 7-6, 6-4, 6-3.

One fight that really did live up to its billing

By KEN LAWRENCE

SPORT ON TELEVISION

THE WEEK IN VIEW

BOXING has always had an ability to devalue its own currency with hyperbole designed to put bums on seats with scant regard to truth, fact or reality. Thus, plodders become contenders, pygmies are giants, and each succeeding heavyweight championship is heralded as "the fight of the century". On Monday evening, however, Eurosport begins a new series of *Superbouts* with a meeting of giants that really did warrant such a label ... Joe Frazier and Muhammad Ali.

On March 8, 1971, there were 20,000 packed into Madison Square Garden; another 1.3 million watched on closed circuit television. And that was it. The rest of the world was denied a view of the fight, which was perfectly correctly entitled to be called "fight of the century".

Jack Sharkey, a former world heavyweight champion who saw all the greats, having fought many of them in the Twenties and Thirties, and later refereed others, said in admiration: "They stood there, toe to toe. It's a long while, 30, 40 years, since I've seen a fight like that." For two hours on Monday the epic is relived.

The Fighters is a documentary narrated by Burt Lancaster and showing not only every blow with previously unseen film but also recounting the build-up and the ramifications of a fight all America had been demanding and which generated record box-office takings of $21 million.

Ali was still known as Cassius Clay when, in 1967, he fought Zora Folley and then had his title taken away for refusing induction for military service. Already disliked for his boasting and his cockiness, he was now loathed as a "draft dodger" and was sidelined for four years by the boxing authorities.

Frazier won, lost and regained the title Ali considered still to be his. As America changed its mind about the merits of the Vietnam war, however, so public opinion relented. Ali was seen less as a coward, more as a man standing up for his principles. There was, therefore, nothing to stand in the way of a newly recognised Ali competing for the world heavyweight title, and so it was that on this March evening in New York he and Frazier glowered at each other from opposite corners of the Garden ring.

Frazier was just too good on the night and won on points. He could weave and bob as well as any man in ring history and if there were doubts when the fifteenth round began, "Smokin' Joe" erased them by delivering a left hook that put Ali on the canvas. He rose but that punch settled the round and the championship.

The Fighters has been called in America the greatest fight picture of all time. There were nine cameras ringside recording the action and while *Superbouts* is scheduled for only one hour each week, this first of the series is allocated the film's full two-hour running time.

Ironically, it is the only one of the series that is not a part of the Jarvis Astaire library that the satellite channel is raiding. Richard Russell, Eurosport's controller of production, drools as he talks about the Astaire collection.

"It is by far the most comprehensive in Europe," he says, "an untapped mine of boxing riches." Astaire, now deputy chairman of Wembley and a behind-the-scenes figure in boxing for many years, holds the rights to just about every important fight filmed at Wembley and the Albert Hall over the past 30 years.

"They are all there ... thumping Billy Walker; Conteh at his best; Minter against Antuofermo and Hagler; Terry Downes, Chris Finnegan, Howard Winstone and Jim Watt," Russell says.

It may please Henry Cooper to learn that his controversial defeat by Joe Bugner in 1971 has been unearthed and will be shown. Cooper has never accepted that he lost his title that night and crossed the referee, Harry Gibbs, off his Christmas card list to emphasise his considerable displeasure. Was he or was he not robbed?

It was an argument that aroused much passion at the time and the question *Superbouts* may help to resolve. It may not amend the record books but it may just give Henry Cooper some satisfaction.

THE WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

TODAY: Would-be Cheltenham hopes run at Sandown (Channel 4, 12.45). Screensport shows the Daytona 24-hour race live (start time, 7.30pm). Scotland and Wales meet at Murrayfield and the losers will be favourites for rugby's wooden spoon (BB1, 2.30).

TOMORROW: Best of the action today is on ITV: *The Match* between Manchester United and Liverpool (2.55pm) and the start to the athletics season with the national indoor championships (5.35pm). On BBC1 Stephen Hendry opens his defence of the Benson and Hedges snooker title (3 and 11.05pm).

MONDAY: *The Fighters* should not be missed on Europe (8pm). Snooker's man of the moment Jimmy White is at the table on BBC1 (10.10pm) with the afternoon play at 2.15 on BBC2.

TUESDAY: A snooker collision. The B and H on BBC1 and 2 (2.15 and 4pm) while Screensport has Steve Davis live in the London Masters (7.30).

WEDNESDAY: If you cannot get to Wembley, then you need the Sports Channel (from 7.30pm) to see those World Cup wonders from Cameroon taking on England. If you are dishless, the highlights are in Sportsnight (BBC1, 10pm), along with cricket from Perth, snooker from Wembley and a look ahead to Saturday's first round of the Rugby League cup. Screensport (8pm) has live boxing from London's York Hall.

THURSDAY: As the B and H snooker reaches the quarter-final stage, the exposure increases (2.15 and 11 on BBC1, 4pm on BBC2).

FRIDAY: All the midweek international soccer is mopped up in *Sport on Friday* (BBC2, 2.20pm) with another quarter-final from the Benson and Hedges snooker.

RACING

Royal Derbi may have fitness edge in Wessel Hurdle

From OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT, DUBLIN

NOMADIC Way, whose last run over hurdles was an unsuccessful trip to the United States for the Dueling Grounds International at Franklin, Kentucky, attempts to win the Wessel Cable Champion Hurdle for the second successive year at Leopardstown tomorrow.

But on the score of fitness, he may be foiled by the other British challenger, Royal Derbi.

The best hurdler yet to carry the colours of Robert Sangster, Nomadic Way proved much too good for Elementary here 12 months ago and confirmed that superiority in the Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham where he was runner-up to Kribensis.

If Barry Hills had succeeded in giving him a prep race, Nomadic Way would have started a clear favourite tomorrow but Royal Derbi, already well backed in the ante-post market at 9-4 and 2-1, is likely to head the market.

Royal Derbi has twice won valuable hurdle races in Ireland at the big Punchestown spring meeting. At Windsor on New Year's Day, he profited from the refusal of Beech Road to take any part and, making all the running, was ridden out to beat Aldino by six lengths.

The best fancied of the five home-trained runners is Athy Spirit, owned and trained by Willie Fennin. Athy Spirit has made extravagant improvement in the past 12 months, and carried 11st 10lb into fifth place behind The Illiad in the Ladbroke hurdle at Leopardstown.

If you require form book evidence to back up this extraordinary improvement, one has only to go back to Punchestown last April when Royal Derbi gave 24lb and a 3½-length beating to Athy Spirit. Now they will be meeting at level terms and there may be little to choose between them.

Rare Holiday won the *Daily Express* Triumph Hurdle last March, but there does not appear to be any stable confidence behind him on this occasion.

If his trainer Dermot Weld is to have any winners over the weekend they are likely to come at Fairyhouse today. Because the steeplechase course was considered to be unfit for racing, the programme was reorganised yesterday and the Fanmond Maiden Hurdle split three ways to make up a six-race programme. Weld will provide fancied runners, *General Idea* and *Separate Ways*, in two of the divisions.

Tom Costello, the controversial County Clare trainer, and his amateur son Tom junior have been referred to the stewards of the Irish National Hunt steeplechase committee by the acting stewards at Punchestown following the resumption of an adjourned enquiry into the 15-length win of the gambled-on Deep Dawn on January 19.

● Welsh Bard, winner of 12 races in Ireland, has been sold to a patron of Charlie Brooks's Lambourn stable and is likely to miss tomorrow's Wessel Cable Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown.

IRISH PROBABLES

Going: yielding

3.10 WESSEL CABLE CHAMPION HURDLE (Ir£50,000: 2m) (7 probables)

1	/32126-	NOMADIC WAY 287 (F,S) (R Sangster) B Hills (GB) 6-11-12	P Scudamore
2	6521-60	RARE HOLIDAY 22 (F) (M Smurfit) D Weld 5-11-9	B Sheridan
3	13-1125	ATHY SPIRIT 22 (F,G,S) (W Fennin) W Fennin 6-11-7	J Banahan
4	210-241	ROYAL DERBI 33 (F,G,S) (M Tabor) N Callaghan (GB) 6-11-7	D Murphy
5	340130	WELSH BARD 22 (G,S) (T Lacy) T Lacy 7-11-7	Doubtful
6	610220	JENNYCOMEQUICK 22 (G,S) (S Corscadden) W Mullins 5-10-13	A Powell
7	1441	NORDIC SURPRISE 29 (S) (E Kearns) J Bolger 4-10-9	C Swan

● Final declaration stage 10.30am today

BETTING: 7-4 Royal Derbi, 2-1 Nomadic Way, 7-2 Athy Spirit, 8-1 Nordic Surprise, 12-1 Rare Holiday, 33-1 Jennycomequick.

1990: NOMADIC WAY 5-11-4 B Powell (3-1) B Hills 8 ran

Curaheen Boy can get Felton off mark

POINT-TO-POINT by BRIAN BEEL

ON THE opening day of the new point-to-point season, Curaheen Boy is in action at Tweseldown today for the Staff College, an RMA Sandhurst meeting.

Last season's champion rider Mike Felton is in the saddle instead of his owner, David Naylor-Leyland, sidelined after a horrific accident when out hunting in the autumn. Curaheen Boy has stiff opposition in division one of the open, but may give Felton an early winner.

The same owner's Dromin Joker has now gone to John Deutsch and will be racing under his new colours in the second division of the open where he could meet Bob Greig's winning chaser Treyford, a purchase out of Tim Forster's yard, the winning chaser, Treyford.

Greig has another useful newcomer, Red Riddel, for his son Alan to ride. Red Riddel, successful in handicap hurdles at Wetherby and Ascot, may oppose Curaheen Boy in the first division.

Other races at this meeting may go to Give Me A Break, Brother Michael, Shrill Whistle and Provide.

The Eastern Harriers stages an RMC ladies' open, the only qualifier today for a national final. Perroquet, who won here at Higham on the opening day of last season, is confidently expected to come out best in this event at the expense of Skygrange and Summons.

Two other horses who may repeat their successes here last year are Portmadox in the members and Rhusted in the open.

Young Jimmy, an entry for the restricted open, was the busiest horse on the Irish circuit in 1990, running 14 times and winning once. Obviously a hardy character, he will, however, be hard pressed this afternoon to beat the course winner, Spartan Sprite. With the maiden divided, seven races are on the card.

In the restricted race at the **North Cornwall** last season, Some Power beat Ascertalmoor into second place. The two could meet in the open at the corresponding meeting today, and I have no hesitation in suggesting that these placings will be reversed.

Ascertalmoor made great strides as the season progressed, winning three times before falling in the lead in the Audi final at Cheltenham.

For this afternoon's restricted, Cricklewood Chris has a better chance than most, still being eligible for this event as none of his three wins last season was an open race.

The improving Cornish Sawthan looks to be the pick of last year's runners in the ladies, but I am prepared to take a chance with Colin Nash's selected from newcomers Jimster and Justhewayyouare.

● The new season has suffered an early casualty with snow and frost causing the cancellation of the **Old Raby Hunt** club, which will not be re-run this season.

Today's meetings: Eastern Harriers, Higham, seven miles north east of Colchester (12.0); North Cornwall, Wadebridge, 1m west of town (12.0); Staff College and RMA Sandhurst Draghounds, Tweseldown, 3m west of Aldershot (12.0).

Teaplanter to extend run

TEAPLANTER fell on his hunter chase debut last season, but won his other three races with ease. Caroline Saunders's charge, with owner Richard Russell in the saddle, should continue in the winning vein in the Foxhunter Chase at Wetherby today (Brian Beel writes).

Samballat has to give 10lb and upwards to his ten rivals at Stratford but should be up to it. Moon Run, however, could prove an interesting each-way prospect.

Piggott draws crowds for Indian Derby

LESTER Piggott rides the once-raced four-year-old filly Speedbird in tomorrow's Indian Derby, 22 years after he last rode in India.

An estimated 100,000 racegoers are expected at Bombay's Mahalaxmi racecourse, home of all five Indian classics, with Piggott's presence the main talking point.

A spokesman for the Royal Western India Turf Club, said: "The atmosphere here is unbelievable. It is the richest race we have ever run, but most of the excitement is being generated by the fact we have Piggott here."

Such is the persuasive power of the jockey that Speedbird may well start favourite in the 17-runner field, in which Walter Swinburn rides Winning Heart and Michael Kinane partners Republique.

● Alex Scott's Run For Nick (Bruce Raymond) and Lord Huntingdon's Corley Boy (Mathieu Boutin) are the first British raiders to tackle a French Flat race this season, when they line up for tomorrow's £5,128 Prix des Camelias (1m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer.

Mellor run continues

STAN Mellor's winning run showed no signs of drying up at Lingfield yesterday when Laundryman continued the Swindon trainer's purple patch with an impressive victory in the Adventure Novices' Chase.

In the absence of Stirrup Cup, Laundryman was sent off at 6-4 on and those who laid the odds had few worries. Always moving and jumping well, Laundryman had his rivals strung out from the final bend, winning unchallenged by ten lengths.

The winner, following up a recent Taunton success, returned with blood oozing from a cut on a rear leg but, after inspecting the injury, Mellor said: "It does not look too bad. He has been a most unlucky horse in the past and deserves to win some good races."

Mellor has now had 21 winners this term and is hoping his good run extends to Sandown today when he is expecting a bold show from King's Curate and So Proud.

King's Curate on favourable mark

By MANDARIN
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

FOLLOWING emphatic victories at Cheltenham and Ascot, King's Curate appears to have an excellent chance of winning the Tote Jackpot Handicap Hurdle at Sandown today, even though Stan Mellor and Mark Perrett, the trainer and jockey involved, freely admit that they would have *preferred softer ground*.

However the seven-year-old is still leniently treated, even though a 6lb penalty has taken his weight to 10st 5lb.

The updated lists of official ratings has King's Curate on 142, which would place him between Calabrese and Yaheeb in today's handicap, instead of further down the ladder. In the circumstances I feel that that ought to balance out the ground factor.

The ease with which King's Curate beat Bankers Gossip and Do Be Brief at Ascot last time had to be seen to be believed, yet it was confirmation of his progress because he had beaten the same two horses at Cheltenham the time before. Previous to that, he had finished a close second to those two good yardsticks, Yorkshire Holly and Catch The Cross, at Wetherby and Sandown respectively.

While I am reluctant to oppose Bradbury Star, I cannot envisage him giving him 19lb to King's Curate even though he managed to beat Run For Free at Cheltenham last time.Nineofus, who had a race at Newcastle at his mercy when falling at the penultimate flight last time out, could pose the main threat to King's Curate.

The presence of **Desert Orchid** in the field for the Agfa Diamond Chase will ensure a bumper attendance at the Esher track, where he already has eight victories to his credit, two of those being on the corresponding occasion two and four years ago.

After failing over two miles at Ascot last time, Desert Orchid ought to be in his element again today, more especially since his opposition has not exactly been distinguishing itself of late.

At the start of the programme, his rider Richard Dunwoody should also managed to win the Ripley Four-Year-Old Hurdle on **Srivjaya**, who shaped well when second to Native Tribe on his jumping debut.

As far as the Scilly Isles Novices' Chase is concerned, I like none better than **Repeat The Dose**, who looks poised to do precisely that, having jumped so well when winning the George Wiggin Memorial Novices' Chase over today's course and distance early last month.

If **Fidway** is to blossom into a serious contender for the hurdler's championship he must surely show it by giving weight and a beating to his four rivals in the Agfa Hurdle even though they include horses of the calibre of Wonder Man and Deep Sensation.

Well that New Halen should also go in the Marston Moor Handicap Chase at Wetherby, having also beaten Al Hashimi last time, I still prefer **Sabin Du Loir**, who has the class to defy top weight in this company and, what is more important, in a handicap with a limited weight range.

At Stratford, **Bonsai Bud** is napped to win the Bet With The Tote Novices' Chase Qualifier. After *winning his* bumper as well as two point-to-points in his native Ireland, this eight-year-old, who is now trained by David Murray Smith, shaped with the requisite promise on his English debut at Fontwell where he finished a creditable second to that good young jumper Golden Celtic.

SANDOWN PARK

Selections

By Mandarin
12.55 Srivijaya.
1.25 Repeat The Dose.
2.00 King's Curate.
2.35 Desert Orchid.
3.10 Fidway.
3.40 Spacial.
4.10 Super Sense.

By Thunderer
12.55 Srivijaya.
1.25 Cardinal Ralph.
2.00 Yaheeb.
2.35 Desert Orchid.
3.10 Fidway.
3.40 Spacial.
4.10 So Proud.

By Michael Seely
1.25 Repeat The Dose. 2.00 KING'S CURATE (nap). 3.40 Nos Na Gaoithe.

Going: good (good to firm in back straight) SIS

12.55 RIPLEY HURDLE (4-Y-O: £3,442: 2m) (6 runners)

101 11103 OLYMPIAN 83 (B,CD,F) (M & N Plant Ltd) T McGovern 11-8 J Osborne 87
102 31224 MARLINGFORD 7 (D,S) (J Law) Mrs J Jordan 11-4 D Morris 96
103 1 REQUESTED 9 (D,S) (G Beccle) R Akehurst 11-4 H Davies 87
104 22P DEADLOCK 32 (R Richards) D Elsworth 11-0 P Holley 79
105 2 SRIVIJAYA 28 (A Saeed) D Nicholson 11-0 R Dunwoody ● 99
106 HUDSON BAY TRADER 208F (A Essawe) N Henderson 10-10 S Smith Eccles —

BETTING: 4-6 Srivijaya, 9-2 Hudson Bay Trader, 7-1 Requested, 10-1 Olympian, 12-1 others.

1990: MEETING ABANDONED — COURSE WATERLOGGED

FORM FOCUS OLYMPIAN 8¾l 3rd to useful Champagne Gold at Nottingham (2m, good). Previously quickened on the flat to beat DEADLOCK (1lb better off) 7l over course and distance (good) in November.
MARLINGFORD one-paced 19½l 4th to Hopscotch in grade II Foodbrokers Finesse Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m, good). Beat San Pier Niceto 12l at Kelso (2m, good to soft) in December. REQUESTED beat Viking Flagship a head (pair clear) at Newton Abbot (2m 150yd, soft). DEADLOCK 5l 2nd to Tyburn Lad at Folkestone (2m 100yd, good) on penultimate start. Saddle slipped when pulled up last time out. SRIVIJAYA headed approaching the last when 15l 2nd to Native Tribe over course and distance (2m, soft). Successful over 1m 4f on the Flat in France: HUDSON BAY TRADER, fair handicapper on the Flat, beat Famous Beauty 3l at Haydock (1m 2f 130yd, firm) in May.
Selection: SRIVIJAYA

1.25 SCILLY ISLES NOVICES CHASE (Grade I: £23,075: 2m 4f 68yd) (6 runners)

201 24-5222 CALAPAEZ 15 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (T Stels) Miss B Sanders 7-11-6 B Powell 81
202 1204-11 CARDINAL RALPH 44 (D,G) (Mrs S Embiricos) J Gifford 7-11-6 R Rowe 93
203 50-6F22 DARE SAY 26 (C,F,G,S) (J Hopkins) J Gifford 8-11-6 E McKinley 73
204 212-141 LE CHAT NOIR 42 (D,F,G) (Lady Harmsworth-Blunt) D Grissell 8-11-6 H Davies 87
205 21-3F11 REPEAT THE DOSE 26 (CD,F,S) (A Wass) T Etherington 8-11-6 E Murphy ● 99
206 1P-021P TILDARG 7 (D,G,S) (M Oberstein) O Sherwood 7-11-6 J Osborne 96

BETTING: 11-8 Repeat The Dose, 5-2 Cardinal Ralph, 7-2 Calapaez, 8-1 Tildarg, 12-1 Le Chat Noir, 16-1 Dare Say.

FORM FOCUS CALAPAEZ 10l 2nd to Southerly Buster at Kempton (2m 4f, good). Previously 12l 2nd to Remittance Man over same course and distance (good to soft).
CARDINAL RALPH all out to beat Latent Talent ½l at Towcester (2m 5f 110yd, good). Previously beat *CALAPAEZ* (same terms) a neck at Leicester (2m 4f, good). DARE SAY 30l 2nd to Last 'O' The Bunch on penultimate start at Chepstow (2m, good).
LE CHAT NOIR beat Higfire 12l at Lingfield (2m, good). *Previously lost chance when blundered and* slipped 8 out when 38½l 4th to Sparkling Flame in grade II Lowndes Lambert Novices' Chase at same course (3m, good). REPEAT THE DOSE left clear 2 out when beating DARE SAY (4lb worse off) 20l at Sandown (2m 4f 68yd, good to soft). Previously beat subsequent winner Formula One 6l at Uttoxeter (2m 4f, soft).
TILDARG pulled hard and weakened quickly 3 out when pulled up behind Al Hashimi at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good) last week. Previously beat Antinous 1½l at Leicester (2m 4f, good to soft).
Selection: REPEAT THE DOSE

2.0 TOTE JACKPOT HANDICAP HURDLE (Grade III: £17,800: 2m 5f 75yd) (15 runners)

301 F8-1261 BRADBURY STAR 33 (CD,F,G,S) (J Campbell) J Gifford 6-12-0 (6ex) G Rowe (7) 90
302 31123-6 CALABRESE 7 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs A Fagan) N Henderson 8-11-5 R Dunwoody 88
303 12P01/0 YAHEEB 83 (G,S) (Mrs A Fawcett) M W Easterby 7-11-2 R Marley —
304 344P-15 LUMBERJACK 31 (CD,S) (A Budge (Equine) Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-11-0 D Byrne 83
305 210063 PEANUTS PET 21 (F,G,S) (L Perry) B McMahon 6-10-12 T Wall 88
306 1-42211 KING'S CURATE 22 (S) (C Elle) S Mellor 7-10-11 (6ex) M Perrett ● 99
307 112F/ BUCKSKIN'S BEST 728 (CD,S) (D Holden) R Dickin 9-10-10 M Jones (3) —
308 05-1294 LIADETT 21 (C,F,G,S) (F Farrant) M Pipe 6-10-10 P Scudamore 92
309 11113F NINEOFUS 35 (F,G) (F Wilson) M H Easterby 5-10-10 L Wyer 90
310 2/210-20 BITTER BUCK 52 (S) (D Horton) C Brooks 8-10-8 G Bradley 83
311 1FP-036 PERSIAN STYLE 21 (G,S) (J Hopkins) J Gifford 7-10-6 R Rowe 88
312 P-63544 ROUYAN 7 (F) (Darlam Racing) R Simpson 5-10-0 W Morris 94
313 F0-0162 GAY RUFFIAN 14F (G,S) (F Jones) D Burchell 5-10-0 D J Burchell 85
314 220/00 GILT BRONZE 14 (C,S) (M Banks) M Banks 7-10-0 B Powell —
315 016/564 DOMARC 7 (F,S) (H Rushworth) T Kersey 8-10-0 Susan Kersey 74

Long handicap: Rouyan 9-6, Gay Ruffian 9-6, Gilt Bronze 9-4, Domarc 9-0.

BETTING: 11-4 King's Curate, 6-1 Rouyan, 7-1 Nineofus, 8-1 Bradbury Star, Calabrese, Liadett, 12-1 Bitter Buck, Lumberjack, 20-1 Buckskin's Best, Peanuts Pet, 25-1 others.

FORM FOCUS BRADBURY STAR beat Run For Free 6l at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good to soft), with DOMARC (28lb better off) 37½l 5th. Previously disappointing 22½l 8th to Run For Free in grade II Waterloo Hurdle at Haydock (2m 4f, good to soft), with BITTER BUCK (7lb better off) ½l 7th and PEANUTS PET (18lb better off) 2l 8th.
CALABRESE 5½l 3rd to Old Dundalk at Kempton (3m, good) last February. LUMBERJACK beat BITTER BUCK (1lb better off) a head at Leicester (2m, soft). KING'S CURATE beat Barker's Gossip 12l at Ascot (3m, soft). *Previously beat Do Be Brief 2l at* Cheltenham (3m, good to soft). Improving sort. LIADETT 3½l 4th to Olveston at Ascot (2m, soft), with GILT BRONZE tailed off 18th. NINEOFUS 2½l 3rd to Leigh Boy at Wetherby (2m, good to firm) on penultimate start. PERSIAN STYLE 4½l 3rd to Elder Prince at Cheltenham (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start. ROUYAN creditable 13½l 4th to Crystal Spirit in grade I Bishops Cleeve Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good), with CALABRESE (22lb worse off) tailed off 6th. GAY RUFFIAN 2½l 2nd to Randolph Place at Haydock (2m 4f, soft), with PEANUTS PET (2lb better off) 33l 6th.
Selection: KING'S CURATE

WETHERBY

Selections

By Mandarin
2.00 Jodami.
2.30 Edberg.
3.00 Father Time.
3.30 Sabin Du Loir.
4.00 Teaplanter.
4.35 Fairways On Target.

By Thunderer
2.00 JODAMI (nap).
2.30 Norval.
3.00 Father Time.
3.30 Katabaric.
4.00 Teaplanter.
4.35 Edward Lear.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.00 TEAPLANTER.

Brian Beel's selection: 4.00 Teaplanter.

Going: good SIS

2.0 ACOMB NOVICES HURDLE (£1,998: 2m) (22 runners)

1 2/1323 AREA CODE 7 (B,G) (Mrs I Ryles) J Johnson 7-11-12 A Orkney ● 99
2 152-1 JODAMI 11 (D,G,S) (J Yeadon) P Beaumont 6-11-12 P A Farrell 94
3 0-2642 COLONIAL LORD 12 (BF) (I Swift) Mrs S Bramall 5-11-5 Mr N Wilson (7) 79
4 00 ENSHARP 3F (Mrs J Gollings) J Leigh 5-11-5 M Brennan —
5 0 ITYFUL 77 (D Lennon) B Wilkinson 5-11-5 J Callaghan (3) —
6 P00 MALIPIERO 7 (A Hay) P Monteith 7-11-5 D Nolan —
7 03/ MR KIPPER 752 (Mrs M Caddy) J Goulding 7-11-5 C Dennis (3) —
8 121-326 ONE MORE KNIGHT 28 (F,G,S) (R West) Mrs I McKie 6-11-5 J Duggan —
9 53 ROBERT DEAR 10 (Mrs M Barwell) M Tompkins 5-11-5 P Niven 93
10 0024/40 SOTHEBY SOUND 7 (Mrs G Morrissey) W Barker 7-11-5 G Harker 81
11 P6 CALDER ROSE 26 (B) (J Veitch) Mrs S Minns 5-11-0 R Fahey —
12 00/5-00 DOLLY PRICES 33 (W Smith) W Smith 6-11-0 D Condell —
13 05-0P KILTY HILL 30 (G Barlow) G Barlow 5-11-0 S J O'Neill —
14 4 MY MUSZKA 8F (Mrs A Waddinson) S Norton 7-11-0 R Garritty 89
15 6 HAROON 7 (J Ennis) N Tinkler 4-10-9 G McCourt —
16 000 LE JOUEUR 32 (Mrs A Porter) Mrs P Barker 4-10-9 C Hawkins 73
17 0 MILEY PIKE 30 (N Tutty) Mrs K Tutty 4-10-9 Mr N Tutty —
18 4 RIDWAN 22 (T Barr) K Morgan 4-10-9 A S Smith (5) 87
19 VELEDA II (Mrs S Bramall) Mrs S Bramall 4-10-9 J O'Gorman (3) —
20 60 WEST WITH THE WIND 7 (A Watson) J Johnson 4-10-9 B Storey 70
21 44 DAKIN BROOK 21 (J Plowright) Mrs G Plowright 4-10-4 F Murtagh (7) 85
22 O'BERON'S DAUGHTER 46F (R Thompson) R Thompson 4-10-4 B Dalton (7) —

BETTING: 2-1 Area Code 3-1 Jodami, 4-1 One More Knight, 7-1 My Muszka, 8-1 Robert Dear, 10-1 Ridwan, 14-1 Colonial Lord, 16-1 Dakin Brook, 20-1 Le Joueur, 25-1 others.

1990: CARBISDALE 4-10-2 J Callaghan (20-1) E Weymes 25 ran

2.30 SKIPTON NOVICES CHASE (£2,740: 2m 4f 100yd) (10 runners)

1 00-123F EDBERG 7 (G,S) (R Darby) J Johnson 7-11-11 A Orkney ● 99
2 0F4/215 NORVAL 9 (F,S) (N Mason (Farms) Ltd) Mrs G Reveley 9-11-11 P Niven 95
3 34-F521 TROPENNA 70 (D,G) (Mrs M Caddy) J Goulding 8-11-11 T Reed 96
4 5F8434 FIGHTING FINISH 21 (Mrs H Scotto) W A Stephenson 7-11-5 Mr K Johnson 94
5 1312P-P LYPHEORIC 43 (G) (N De Savary) Mrs J Ramsden 8-11-5 M Dwyer —
6 000//F PAVILION D'AMOUR 44 (Mrs G Morrissey) W Barker 9-11-5 D Wilkinson —
7 5-833EU SPARK OF PEACE 2 (G,S) (B Cahill) P Blockley 9-11-5 A Webb 82
8 0/6354 DISTANT CHERRY 70 (S) (H Hogarth) D Lee 8-11-0 B Storey —
9 20311-P NOBLE SCAMP 7 (F) (Mrs C Ford) J Parkes 8-11-0 N Smith (5) —
10 5-42044 RUNNING FORTUNE 30 (Mrs S Smith) Mrs S Smith 8-11-0 M Brennan 76

BETTING: 11-4 Norval, 3-1 Edberg, 9-2 Tropenna, 6-1 Lypheoric, 8-1 Fighting Finish, 10-1 Spark Of Peace, 12-1 Noble Scamp, 14-1 others.

1990: TORT 6-11-11 S J O'Neill (6-4 fav) J Mackie 12 ran

3.0 BET WITH THE TOTE HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,687: 3m) (13 runners)

1 221P-P0- WITHY BANK 21 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs S Smith) Mrs S Smith 9-12-0 M Dwyer 90
2 5U112U EASTERN OASIS 29 (D,BF,F,G,S) (J Andrews) J Andrews 8-11-11 R Fahey 91
3 26-2312 ARMAGRET 7 (C,F,G,S) (Miss T Longstaff) B Wilkinson 6-11-9 F Murtagh (7) 95
4 03130-1 FATHER TIME 21 (S) (Mrs A Hollest) M Tompkins 7-11-8 G McCourt ● 99
5 45-6240 CARBISDALE 14 (C,S) (Mrs P Weymes) E Weymes 5-11-7 J Callaghan (3) 92
6 0-24233 BROCTUNE GREY 9 (CD,BF,F,S) (D Playforth) Mrs G Reveley 7-11-5 P Niven 98
7 FP5300 FLYING DANCER 7 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs S Bramall) Mrs S Bramall 9-11-1 J H Burke (7) 95
8 P10020 PREMIER PRINCESS 3 (F,G) (D Drury) W Bentley 5-11-0 T Reed 92
9 5/1-0303 ROYAL GOSSIP 15 (D,G,S) (J Sumner) Mrs I McKie 9-10-12 J Duggan 96
10 P-F2F00 WREKIN HILL 45 (S) (P Piller) W A Stephenson 9-10-1 C Grant —
11 5004F/F- EDWARD'S CORNER 218F (G,S) (Mrs S Dooler) J Dooler 13-10-0 S Turner —
12 0-83953 ROMAN DUSK 35 (F,G,S) (W Lockey) B Wilkinson 11-10-0 N Smith (5) 78
13 /001F/6- SKIDDY LAD 375 (S) (S Smith) S Smith 9-10-0 M Brennan —

Long handicap: Edward's Corner 8-6, Roman Dusk 8-4, Skiddy Lad 7-11.

BETTING: 3-1 Father Time, 9-2 Armagret, 11-2 Eastern Oasis, 7-1 Premier Princess, 9-1 Royal Gossip, Flying Dancer, 10-1 Carbisdale, 14-1 Broctune Grey, Withy Bank, 25-1 others.

1990: YORKSHIRE HOLLY 7-11-9 P Niven (10-1) Mrs G Reveley 12 ran

2.35 AGFA DIAMOND STEEPLE CHASE (Limited handicap: Grade II: £20,700: 3m 118yd) (4 runners)

401 31-2414 DESERT ORCHID 21 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (R Burridge) D Elsworth 12-12-0 R Dunwoody 98
402 211P-3P NICK THE BRIEF 38 (D,F,G,S) (J Upson) J Upson 9-10-13 R Supple ● 99
403 1/11F-4 TEN OF SPADES 23 (D,F,G,S) (W Whitbread) N Henderson 11-10-7 J Osborne 97
404 4F8-844 KILDIMO 7 (D,F,G,S) (Lady Harris) G Moore 11-10-7 R Stronge 93

Long handicap: Ten Of Spades 10-2, Kildimo 10-0.

BETTING: 2-7 Desert Orchid, 11-2 Nick The Brief, 7-1 Ten Of Spades, 12-1 Kildimo.

FORM FOCUS DESERT ORCHID 6l 4th to Blitzkreig in grade II Victor Chandler Handicap Chase at Ascot (2m, good to soft). Previously beat Toby Tobias 12l in grade I King George VI Rank Chase at Kempton (3m, good to soft), with below par NICK THE BRIEF (15lb better off) pulled up before 4 out.
Last season, 4¾l 3rd to Norton's Coin in Cheltenham Gold Cup (3m 2f, good to firm) in March, with TEN OF SPADES (21lb better off) 4th and weakening when fell 2 out, KILDIMO (21lb better off) beaten when fell 7 out and NICK THE BRIEF (15lb better off) pulled up before 11 out. NICK THE BRIEF weakened approaching last when 14l 3rd to Celtic Shot on reappearance at Haydock (3m, good to soft). Best effort when beating Carvill's Hill 5l at Leopardstown (3m, soft) last February. TEN OF SPADES 7l 4th to Panto Prince at Wincanton (2m 5f, good). Beat Paddyboro 8l in valuable handicap at Ascot (3m, soft) last February. KILDIMO 25l last of 4 to Celtic Shot at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good) last Saturday, and 4l 2nd to Celtic Shot in grade II Charlie Hall Chase at Wetherby (3m 100yd, good).
Selection: DESERT ORCHID

3.10 AGFA HURDLE (£6,947: 2m) (5 runners)

501 U811-11 FIDWAY 37 (D,F,G,S) (A Coley) T Thomson Jones 6-11-6 S Smith Eccles 94
502 0-P1116 WONDER MAN 21 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs S Robins) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-4 M Pitman ● 99
503 3105-13 DEEP SENSATION 37 (CD,BF,G,S) (R Eliot) J Gifford 6-11-0 R Rowe 94
504 1110-5 MAJOR INQUIRY 70 (D,F,G) (Mrs T Brown) D Elsworth 5-11-0 G Bradley 73
505 1/161-52 VOYAGE SANS RETOUR 32 (B,D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Leeper) M Pipe 6-11-0 P Scudamore 92

BETTING: 13-8 Fidway, 5-2 Wonder Man, 11-4 Deep Sensation, 10-1 Voyage Sans Retour, 14-1 Major Inquiry.

FORM FOCUS FIDWAY beat Sybillin 1½l in grade I Top Rank Christmas Hurdle at Kempton (2m, good), with DEEP SENSATION (5lb better off) 1½l 3rd. Previously beat Atlaal 1½l in grade II Gerry Feilden Hurdle at Newbury (2m 100yd, good), with MAJOR INQUIRY 30½l 5th.
WONDER MAN weakened approaching last in the Ladbroke Hurdle Leopardstown (2m, yielding to soft). Beat Stratford Ponds 3½l at Ascot (2m, good to firm) in December, with VOYAGE SANS RETOUR (same terms) 8l 5th. DEEP SENSATION beat Atlaal ¾l (pair clear) on reappearance at Warwick (2m, good), with WONDER MAN (4lb worse off) holding every chance when falling 2 out. MAJOR INQUIRY, useful juvenile last term, beat Stage Player 8l at Cheltenham (2m, good to firm) last January. VOYAGE SANS RETOUR led until after last and rallied under pressure when a head 2nd to the improving Elder Prince in a handicap Cheltenham (2m, good to soft).
Selection: WONDER MAN (nap)

3.40 ELMBRIDGE HANDICAP CHASE (£6,674: 2m 18yd) (6 runners)

1 2-4113U HOGMANAY 21 (CD,F,G) (Mrs R Casey) R Casey 9-12-0 H Davies 93
2 2/2/211- MOU-DAFA 250 (D,F,G,S) (T Brady) M Pipe 11-11-6 P Scudamore 85
3 812224 THAR-AN-BHARR 37 (D,F,G,S) (J Upson) J Upson 9-11-7 R Supple 93
4 1F/4332 NOS NA GAOITHE 35 (B,D,S) (P Green) M H Easterby 8-11-6 L Wyer 94
5 121-121 SPACIAL 15 (D,F,G,S) (B Yard) N Gaselee 7-10-6 B Powell ● 99
6 05-52FF FUEGO BOY 8 (D,G,S) (A Darlington) A J Wilson 11-10-1 B Dowling 88

BETTING: 9-4 Spacial, 11-4 Hogmanay, 7-2 Nos Na Gaoithe, 5-1 Thar-An-Bharr, 6-1 Mou-Dafa, 20-1 Fuego Boy.

FORM FOCUS HOGMANAY beat Certain Style a neck at Ascot (2m, good to firm) in November.
MOU-DAFA made all to beat Palace Yard 6l at Fontwell Park (2m 2f 110yd, firm) in May. Previously beat Grey Tornado 10l at Newton Abbot (2m 150yd, firm). THAR-AN-BHARR disappointing 34l 4th to Gold Options at Kempton (2m 4f, good). Better judged on previous 2l 2nd to Blazing Walker at Ascot (2m, good to firm), with HOGMANAY (3lb better off) 3½l 3rd. NOS NA GAOITHE 25l 2nd to Mr Entertainer at Newbury (2m 4f, good). Previously better effort when 6l 3rd to Old Applejack at Wetherby (2m 4f 100yd, soft). SPACIAL made all to beat subsequent winner Al Hashimi 4l (pair clear) at Kempton (2m, good) last time out. Previously 1l 2nd to Zummerset at Devon (2m 1f, soft). FUEGO BOY 20l 2nd of 3 to Setter Country at Stratford (2m, good) in November.
Selection: SPACIAL

4.10 FEBRUARY NOVICES HURDLE (£3,155: 2m) (16 runners)

1 411015 DARA DOONE 15 (D,G,S) (B Mackie) R Akehurst 5-11-8 R Dunwoody 88
2 3111 SO PROUD 16 (D,F,S) (Lord Wolverton) S Mellor 6-11-8 M Perrett 98
3 1/82-21P YOUNG POKEY 38 (D,F,G) (M Oberstein) O Sherwood 6-11-8 J Osborne 87
4 00-43 AMONG FRIENDS 85 (The Rumble Racing Club) G Balding 6-11-0 — 75
5 10-6U BALLYNICK 44 (F) (Mrs E Roberts) N Henderson 7-11-0 J Kavanagh (3) —
6 00/5-6 BARGE BOY 38 (C House) J Old 7-11-0 K Mooney 81
7 65-P06 CAZAUDEHORE 14 (G Johnson) M Robinson 6-11-0 S Smith-Eccles —
8 F GENOTIN 77 (Mrs J Ellis) S Mellor 8-11-0 S Earle —
9 P LAABAS 15 (J Nicholson) J Long 8-11-0 R Rowell —
10 3/83- MUSCLETON 294 (M Kingsley) D Elsworth 6-11-0 B Powell 78
11 582-001 PRESENT TIMES 32 (D,G) (Mrs S Green) A Moore 5-11-0 G Moore 75
12 3-0P STRONG SUPPORT 28 (D Dalton) M McCourt 6-11-0 L Wyer 84
13 04-2 SUPER SENSE 21 (Miss N Hughes) J Gifford 6-11-0 R Rowe ● 99
14 F0 THE REFRIGERATOR 14 (S Morris (Yeovil) Ltd) L Cottrell 7-11-0 H Davies —
15 0 YOUNG ALFIE 9 (J Panvert) J Panvert 6-11-0 J Akehurst —
16 6 MOON REEF 35 (P M Racing Partnership) C Broad 5-10-9 M Jones (3) —

BETTING: 7-4 So Proud, 2-1 Young Pokey, 9-2 Super Sense, 13-2 Dara Doone, 12-1 Ballynick, Muscleton; 14-1 Barge Boy, Cazaudehore, 16-1 Among Friends, 25-1 others.

FORM FOCUS DARA DOONE jumped poorly when 14l 5th to Gran Alba at Kempton (2m, good), with LAABAS in rear when pulled up before 2 out. Previously returned better effort to beat Come On Toby 2½l at Devon (2m 1f, soft).
SO PROUD unextended to complete treble with 5l defeat of Monday Club at Taunton (2m 110yd, good to soft). YOUNG POKEY behind when pulled up before 2 out in Gaselee's race at Kempton (2m, good). Previously all out to beat Bell Glass ½l at Newbury (2m 100yd, good). MUSCLETON could not quicken on the flat when 1l 3rd to Hortondale at Newton Abbot (2m 150yd, firm). SUPER SENSE running-on 3l 2nd to New Duds, pair clear, at Ascot (2m, soft).
Selection: SUPER SENSE

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
C Brooks	11	38	28.9	S Smith Eccles	20	86	23.3
Jimmy Fitzgerald	4	16	25.0	M Pitman	6	27	22.2
Mrs J Pitman	18	80	22.5	E Murphy	9	47	19.1
M Pipe	11	50	22.0	J Osborne	7	38	18.4
D Grissell	6	28	21.4	R Dunwoody	22	131	16.8
N Henderson	16	84	19.0	P Scudamore	21	125	16.8

Guide to our in-line racecard

1 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.30 MARSTON MOOR CHASE (Limited Handicap: Grade II: £16,756: 2m 4f 100yd) (8 runners)

1 4-122F1 SABIN DU LOIR 28 (D,F,G,S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 12-12-0 G McCourt 95
2 13-4123 KATABATIC 21 (F,G,S) (Pell-mell Partners) A Turnell 8-11-5 S McNeill 98
3 4/U1-6FP PHOENIX GOLD 7 (CD,BF,F,S) (Phoenix W'proofing) Jimmy Fitzgerald 11-10-12 M Dwyer 92
4 *135U11 OLD APPLEJACK 35 (CD,F,G,S) (G Tobitt) J Johnson 11-10-7* T Reed ● 99
5 135411 NEW HALEN 33 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs S Sivtar) A James 10-10-7 E Tierney (7) 92
6 3-03262 IDA'S DELIGHT 35 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) (J Charlton) J Charlton 12-10-7 B Storey 97
7 110F24 CAPTAIN MOR 7 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (P Piller) W A Stephenson 9-10-7 Mr K Johnson 88
8 522-121 GENERAL CHANDOS 31 (D,F,G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 10-10-7 Mr J Bradburne 90

BETTING: 5-2 Sabin Du Loir, 7-2 Katabatic, 4-1 New Halen, 11-2 Phoenix Gold, 7-1 Old Applejack, 9-1 Ida's Delight, 12-1 General Chandos, Captain Mor.

1990: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

4.0 FOXHUNTERS HUNTER CHASE (£1,763: 3m 100yd) (13 runners)

1 241400- SPEAKERS CORNER 325 (F) (N Scott) N Scott 8-12-7 H Brown (7) 81
2 522112- BAY BRIDGE 248 (CD,F,G) (J Greenall) W A Stephenson 10-12-4 J Greenall (3) 87
3 P111- TEAPLANTER 281 (D,F,S) (R Russell) R Russell 8-12-4 R Russell (7) ● 99
4 2P4P0P- ANDREW 360 (D,S) (G McGuinness) G McGuinness 8-11-11 J M Dun (7) 77
5 452244 BOTHAM 105 (F) (J Price) K Oliver 11-11-11 Miss S Forster (7) 70
6 32/3413- BRONZE HEAD 262 (D,G,S) (A Bonas) A Bonas 13-11-11 N Wilson (7) 87
7 01/134/ LE PIAT D'OR 780 (F) (Mrs R Whitaker) R Whitaker 10-11-11 S Whitaker (7) —
8 34P5- MELSONBY 315 (Mrs E Robson) E Robson 9-11-11 N Hargreave (7) 80
9 -0- PARPANTO 455 (S Pittendrigh) S Pittendrigh 10-11-11 S Pittendrigh (7) —
10 P6/P0P0- SPRING PAUPER 322 (D,G,S) (C Denny) C Denny 10-11-11 C Denny (7) —
11 FP/1220- STRAIGHT PILOT 302 (C,S) (D Ford) D Ford 9-11-11 S Swiers 86
12 0UU/335- THE LADY'S PARTNER 533 (B,F) (S Pittendrigh) S Pittendrigh 9-11-11 P Johnson (7) —
13 3- WOT PET 287 (T Gibson) T Gibson 8-11-11 S Heslop (7) 79

BETTING: 11-10 Teaplanter, 4-1 Bronze Head, 7-1 Straight Pilot, 8-1 Bay Bridge, 12-1 Speakers Corner, 14-1 Wot Pet, Andrew, Le Piat D'Or, 20-1 others.

1990: STRAIGHT PILOT 8-11-8 S Swiers (6-1) D Ford 5 ran

4.35 SPOFFORTH NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,778: 2m) (14 runners)

1 0-18212 WINDWARD ARIOM 32 (D,BF,F,S) (Mrs A Drury) D Topley 5-11-10 F Murtagh (7) 87
2 1 EDWARD LEAR 74 (CD,F) (J Fitzgerald) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-7 M Dwyer 84
3 1-1821 FAIRWAYS ON TARGET 54 (D,F,G) (Target Taxis Ltd) Mrs G Reveley 5-11-5 P Niven 90
4 4-01244 WIMBORNE 5 (D,F) (Wetherby Racing Bureau Plc) R Bastiman 6-10-13 A Orkney 90
5 323330 DANCING DAYS 12 (J Parkes) J Parkes 5-10-12 N Smith (5) 82
6 062 SHERIFF'S BAND 32 (BF) (I Armitage) M H Easterby 4-10-10 R Fahey 90
7 P454-0 PROCURATOR 7 (D Jefferson) D Moffatt 5-10-8 D J Moffatt (7) 98
8 231334 TRES AMIGOS 7 (D,F) (N Peacock) R Woodhouse 4-10-8 G McCourt 94
9 35//P0 PATHERO 12 (H Whitton) N Bycroft 7-10-3 J Callaghan (3) —
10 035080 ROSEHIP 21 (Mrs J Porter) W A Stephenson 6-10-3 A Larnach (7) 87
11 P-300P2 SILVER AGE 11 (Mrs S Bird) J Bradley 5-10-1 M Brennan ● 99
12 3/3/P55 ICHI BAN SON 33 (B Kilpatrick) A Smith 7-10-0 C Grant —
13 0/6P080- MOORLANDER 345 (Mrs J Tinning) W Tinning 6-10-0 S Turner —
14 P0U520- SKIPLAM WOOD 254F (Mrs D Lee) D Lee 5-10-0 R Hodge (7) 84

BETTING: 7-2 Fairways On Target, 9-2 Edward Lear, 6-1 Windward Ariom, 8-1 Sheriff's Band, Wimborne, 10-1 Silver Age, 12-1 Tres Amigos, 14-1 Dancing Days, 16-1 others.

1990: NEARCTIC BAY 4-10-4 C Hawkins (8-1) Mrs P Baker 14 ran

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
Jimmy Fitzgerald	32	143	22.4	M Dwyer	41	207	19.8
K Oliver	6	27	22.2	T Reed	11	65	16.9
M H Easterby	41	204	20.1	G McCourt	8	49	16.3
K Morgan	6	34	17.6	Mr S Swiers	8	51	15.7
J Johnson	8	48	16.7	C Grant	36	259	13.9
W A Stephenson	59	359	16.4	C Hawkins	15	130	11.5

● Sillian survived a bad blunder four fences from home to give Malpas trainer Anne Hewitt her first winner of the season in the Trial Run Novices' Chase at Bangor yesterday. The winner is owned and bred by Market Drayton farmer Gordon Williams and was ridden by Seamus O'Neill. Mrs Hewitt said: "I wanted to go to Cheltenham with Sillian but I don't think he's experienced enough at the moment. He could run at Liverpool, though."

STRATFORD

Selections

By Mandarin
1.45 Dramatic Event. 2.15 Olnicetto. 2.45 Setter Country. 3.15 BONSAI BUD (nap). 3.45 Sanballat. 4.15 Parting Hour.

By Thunderer
1.45 Old Eros. 2.15 Olnicetto. 2.45 Setter Country. 3.15 Bonsai Bud. 3.45 Sanballat. 4.15 Edward Seymour.

Brian Beel's selection: 3.45 Sanballat.

Going: good (good to soft in places for hurdles)

1.45 AVON HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,460: 2m) (15 runners)

1 /2-0 BENISSA RYDER 10 (D,F) M Pipe 8-11-12 —
2 -FF4 OLD EROS 11 (D,G,S) M Ryan 7-11-9 J McLaughlin
3 -122 CHESTER TERRACE 38 (BF,D,S) K Bridgwater 7-11-1 A Carroll
4 512- TIMES ARE HARD 238F (D,G) D Burchell 7-10-12 D J Burchell
5 1162 DAMART 12 (D,F,S) Miss L Siddall 7-10-12 A J Quinn
6 3-4P RINGYBOY 8 (CD,S) R Akehurst 6-10-11 J Frost
7 088F SHARPGUN 3 (D,S) V Young 5-10-11 —
8 0/6 BLANTON RESERVE 8 (D,F,S) N Henderson 7-10-8 J White
9 6-53 MOST INTERESTING 18 (D,S) G Jones 6-10-7 —
10 2041 DRAMATIC EVENT 3 (D,G) J Moore 6-10-6 (7ex) —
11 534- NOBLE EYRE 288 (D,G,S) D Gandolfo 10-10-4 D Ward (7)
12 00-3 IZADYAR 35 (D,G,S) P Hedger 7-10-3 M Richards
13 5/ OCEAN LAD 581F A Chamberlain 8-10-0 —
14 6-P0 SALES PROMOTER 14 R Price 8-10-0 R Bellamy (3)
15 1/0- GREAT ASPECT 324 (D,F,S) K White 7-11-7 A O'Hagan

4-1 Chester Terrace, 9-2 Dramatic Event, 5-1 Benissa Ryder, 7-1 Blanton Reserve, 8-1 Old Eros, 10-1 others.

2.15 LOXLEY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,949: 2m 6f) (20)

1 F600 MO ICHI DO 38 (B,F) Miss S Wilton 5-11-10 —
2 5-20 AL SAHIL 5 J White 6-11-9 D Skyrme (3)
3 P-06 POMATUM 18 (F) J Bosley 6-11-8 M Bosley
4 3046 SPITFIRE JUBILEE 16 (F) R Hodges 5-11-3 A Tory
5 0322 THEY ALL FORGOT ME 4 (C,G) T Casey 4-11-3 —
6 53P4 DOUBLE HANDFULL 11 (B) J Roberts 5-11-0 P Dever
7 5DF0 AL SKEET 66 V Young 5-11-0 —
8 R143 COXANN 12 (C,S) J McConnochie 5-10-13 J Shortt
9 3PP3 CLEAVERS GATE 5 (B) N Tinkler 6-10-13 M Hill
10 404 OLNICETTO 18 M Pipe 4-10-12 —
11 300F AIOLI 12 R Brazington 5-10-8 R Beggan
12 0-U3 ORIGAMI 42 William Price 6-10-9 A Price
13 6-P0 SWEET THURSDAY 35 (V) B Stevens 5-10-6 R Goldstein
14 0-00 LANDSKER OATS 10 Mrs A Ratcliff 5-10-6 Miss T Spearing (7)
15 -430 HIGH NODDY 12 D Burchell 6-10-5 D J Burchell
16 3005 BADGERS GIFT 10 (V) T Caldwell 5-10-4 Peter Caldwell
17 2000 MARLBOROUGH LADY 11 Mrs A Knight 5-10-1 G Knight
18 0P-F COME HALLEY 28 Mrs A Knight 5-10-1 M Williams
19 9-0P HANNAH MELLIE NICK 45 L Codd 6-10-0 F Murtagh (7)
20 6P60 BRAZEN BARONESS 9 Mrs P Sly 5-10-0 A Carroll

11-4 Olnicetto, 9-2 They All Forgot Me, 5-1 Badgers Gift, 7-1 Coxann, Marlborough Lady, 10-1 Double Handfull, 16-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: R Akehurst, 11 winners from 27 runners, 40.7%; N Tinkler, 6 from 19, 31.6%; N Henderson, 21 from 74, 28.4%; J Edwards, 16 from 60, 26.7%; S Mellor, 8 from 32, 25.0%; M Pipe, 20 from 90, 22.2%.

JOCKEYS: A Tory, 5 winners from 9 rides, 55.6%; J Shortt, 6 from 29, 20.7%; J White, 11 from 55, 20.0%; D Burchell, 5 from 26, 19.2%; R Goldstein, 4 from 21, 19.0%; R Guest, 3 from 20, 15.0%.

2.45 ALSCOT HANDICAP CHASE (£2,843: 2m) (7)

1 /P-P FRED THE TREAD 14 (D,F) T Casey 9-12-0 —
2 5F54 BROAD BEAM 15 (CD,F,G,S) P Hobbs 11-11-9 C Maude (3)
3 1580 TAFFY JONES 14 (CD,F,G,S) M McCormack 12-11-7 I Shoemark (3)
4 41-1 RUSTY ROC 72 (CD,F,G,S) M Davies 10-10-13 W Knox
5 1332 SETTER COUNTRY 8 (CD,F,G) R Hodges 7-10-13 W Irvine
6 24F3 KNOCKENNIS 8 (F,G) R Lee 8-10-0 W McFarland
7 5F02 HARD STUFF 32 (G) D Nicholson 7-10-0 R Bellamy (3)

7-4 Setter Country, 11-4 Hard Stuff, 9-2 Knockennis, 6-1 Rusty Roc, 10-1 Broad Beam, 14-1 Taffy Jones, 33-1 other.

3.15 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE (Qualifier: £3,096: 3m 2f) (16)

1 -RP1 INTO THE RED 35 (C,S) J White 7-11-4 R Guest
2 -314 PAMBER PRIORY 14 (G) B Smart 8-11-4 M Bowlby
3 22P- AREN'T WE ALL 383 G Edwards 12-10-12 Mr G Edwards
4 -865 BEARNA NA GAOITHE 86 (F) A James 9-10-12 —
5 /1-2 BONSAI BUD 19 (G) D Murray-Smith 8-10-12 P Verling (3)
6 832P COT LANE 10 (B) F Yardley 8-10-12 D Gallagher
7 030F KAMADOOR 19 (F,S) G Balding 8-10-12 A Charlton
8 F8-4 KILKILMARTIN 19 P Hedger 9-10-12 M Richards
9 1-32 LEAVENWORTH 11 (BF,G) T Forster 7-10-12 C Llewellyn
10 462F MURPHY'S MAN 21 D Nicholson 7-10-12 R Bellamy (3)
11 5-0F PERRY WELL 53 K Bailey 7-10-12 A Tory
12 -6P5 PRIORS COPPICE 11 C Popham 9-10-12 S Donohoe (7)
13 -0P5 SILVER SKYLARK 32 P Hobbs 7-10-12 C Maude (3)
14 25-P BRIGAND GIRL 12 Mrs Jill Evans 9-10-7 T Pinfield (5)
15 000F MISS WRENSBOROUGH 9 (B) D Gandolfo 8-10-7 J White
16 -86F PARSONS LAW 8 (F,G) J Edwards 8-10-7 D Tegg

5-2 Bonsai Bud, 7-2 Leavenworth, 7-1 Pamber Priory, Into The Red, 8-1 Perry Well, 12-1 Parsons Law, 14-1 others.

3.45 CREDIT CALL HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,795: 2m 6f) (11)

1 114- SANBALLAT 245 (CD,F,G,S) D Nicholson 9-12-10 J Weatherby (7)
2 ALAN BOY Alan Robinson 7-12-0 A Robinson (7)
3 332- BIG DECISION 319 Mrs Ann Taylor 8-12-0 L Lay (7)
4 *LEAN ON ME 1396 J Cheatle 8-12-0* P McNicklo (7)
5 P2P- MASTER ERYL 246 (F) Mrs Roger Guilding 8-12-0 M Sheppard (7)
6 80P- MOON RUN 294 S Flurry 8-12-0 —
7 PP/ STRAIGHT BAT 613 J Collett 8-12-0 Miss S Sadler (7)
8 6/ TSAGAIRT PAROISTE 977 A Paterson 8-12-0 —
9 P/ WALKERS LODGE 987 H Harper 11-12-0 T Isley (7)
10 CROSSFIRE E Dilworth 7-11-9 C Stockton (7)
11 NETHERDROM 1920 J Tredwell 11-11-9 R Lawther (7)

11-8 Sanballat, 9-4 Master Eryl, 3-1 Crossfire, 8-1 Big Decision, 20-1 Walkers Lodge, Netherdrom, 25-1 others.

4.15 CHARLECOTE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,057: 2m) (17)

1 1 CHURCHILL EXPRESS 19 (S) R Akehurst 11-2 J Frost
2 1484 SAFETY 15 (F) J White 11-2 S Keightley
3 ALBERTITO 244F R Hollinshead 10-10 Gary Lyons (3)
4 DRAGONS NEST 250F T Casey 10-10 —
5 4 EDWARD SEYMOUR 11 S Mellor 10-10 Mr D Gray
6 5 FRENCH IVY 68 Mrs A King 10-10 —
7 HAWAIIAN REEF 140F N Henderson 10-10 J White
8 INDIAN PLUME 21F D Burchell 10-10 D J Burchell
9 IRISH DITTY 158F K Morgan 10-10 A S Smith (5)
10 MYHAMET 108F P Hobbs 10-10 —
11 03 PARTING HOUR 28 (S) Sherwood 10-10 W Knox
12 SHELTER 82F J Price 10-10 —
13 SUPERCHIP 145F R Brotherton 10-10 S Woods
14 0 BARRICA 8 D Nicholson 10-5 R Bellamy (3)
15 MADIYLA 82F J Redmond 10-5 W Elderfield
16 40 MARINERS MOL 80 J Colston 10-5 G Robertson (7)
17 MISTRESS MONEY 84F Mrs A Knight 10-5 G Knight

5-2 Churchill Express, 3-1 Edward Seymour, 5-1 Parting Hour, 8-1 Myhamet, 10-1 Safety, 14-1 others.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: All Engagements (dead): Longriver Lady, Moontalk, Rusch De Farges, Good Point, Shangoseer, Big Cahoona.

LINGFIELD PARK

Selections

By Mandarin
1.50 Second Adventure. 2.20 Dancing Breeze. 2.50 Double Entendre. 3.20 Yesican. 3.50 Domino Trick. 4.20 Maid Of Essex.

By Thunderer
1.50 Second Adventure. 2.20 Dancing Breeze. 2.50 Patience Creek. 3.20 Torghia. 3.50 Anneli Rose. 4.20 Maid Of Essex.

Going: standard SIS
Draw: 6f-1m, low numbers best

1.50 CHURCHILL MAIDEN STAKES (£2,325: 6f) (7 runners)

1 550- JOVIAL KATE 145 M Usher 4-9-5 M Marshall 2
2 LAZY HILL D Chapman 4-9-5 S Wood (3) 3
3 58-3 GALLERY ARTIST 15 R Guest 3-8-8 J Quinn 6
4 0- MIDNIGHT SAGA 91 M Prescott 3-8-8 C Nutter 1
5 0-36 PENSERAPH 21 (V) P Howling 3-8-8 C Rutter 5
6 24 SECOND ADVENTURE 14 D Murray Smith 3-8-8 R Wernham 4
7 350- MIDSUMMER COMMON 120 A Moore 3-8-3 Candy Morris 7

7-4 Second Adventure, 9-4 Gallery Artist, 5-1 Jovial Kate, 8-1 Midnight Saga, 10-1 Penseraph, 12-1 others.

2.20 CRUSADER CLAIMING STAKES (£2,521: 7f) (8)

1 001- FRENCH LEGIONNAIRE 18J (F) Mrs S Armytage 4-8-11 J Williams 2
2 6-62 DANCING BREEZE 7 Pat Mitchell 4-8-9 Ron Hillis (3) 1
3 606- CARNEGIE DELI 147 S Dow 4-8-4 Dean McKeown 5
4 2686 COUNT ME OUT 7 (B,CD,F) R Hoad 6-8-4 N Adams 4
5 000- MUMMY'S FOX 58J J Fox 4-8-4 A Tucker (7) 8
6 /00- RUIZ MIGUEL 125 L Cottrell 5-8-4 C Rutter 6
7 6- WINDSOR HIGHNESS 255 M Muggeridge 4-8-4 R Fox 3
8 /80- LUCKY CRYSTAL 74J (D,F) A Moore 5-8-0 J Quinn 7

5-4 Dancing Breeze, 3-1 Count Me Out, 9-2 French Legionnaire, 8-1 Carnegie Deli, 12-1 Ruiz Miguel, 16-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: M Prescott, 15 winners from 53 runners, 28.3%; D Murray Smith, 13 from 73, 17.8%; P Cole, 26 from 151, 17.2%; D Arbuthnot, 10 from 65, 15.4%; R O'Sullivan, 7 from 46, 15.2%; T Thomson Jones, 3 from 25, 12.0%.

JOCKEYS: C Nutter, 4 winners from 16 rides, 25.0%; S O'Gorman, 16 from 83, 19.3%; T Quinn, 42 from 298, 14.1%; Dean McKeown, 8 from 60, 13.3%; R Wernham, 9 from 90, 10.0%. (Only qualifiers).

2.50 CHIEFTAIN APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£2,499: 1m 2f) (9)

1 46-6 WINDSOR PARK 9J (C,D,G) R O'Sullivan 5-9-13 D Biggs 8
2 00-5 SYLVAN TEMPEST 28 (S) P Mitchell 5-9-9 D Cripps (8) 5
3 100- DOUBLE ENTENDRE 45 (F,G,S) J Akehurst 5-9-7 S O'Gorman 7
4 50-6 CORAL FLUTTER 26 J Payne 4-8-7 Ron Hillis 3
5 5-15 PATIENCE CREEK 14 (CD,S) C Wildman 5-9-5 J Weaver (5) 9
6 900- PRIOR CHARGE 51 (C) Pat Mitchell 4-8-2 Sara Chittenden (8) 2
7 880/ ARCTIC KEN 10J (F,S) B Palling 5-8-13 A Tucker (5) 1
8 /43- THE MINDER 35 Lord Huntingdon 4-8-13 D Harrison (8) 6
9 -302 PRINCESS ROXANNE 7 (B) A Bailey 4-8-11 Wendy McLaughlin (8) 4

4-1 Sylvan Tempest, 9-2 Double Entendre, 5-1 Patience Creek, 11-2 Princess Roxanne, 6-1 Windsor Park, 8-1 others.

3.20 CHALLENGER HANDICAP (£2,898: 1m 4f) (6)

1 213- TAKE ONE 15J (F) P Mitchell 5-10-0 S O'Gorman (5) 3
2 1-10 TORGHIA 14 (CD,F) D Arbuthnot 4-9-10 T Quinn 1
3 530- EXPRESS ACCOUNT 58 (F,G) R Williams 4-9-0 G Baxter 4
4 5-31 YESICAN 14 (C) T Thomson Jones 5-8-11 Dean McKeown 6
5 6-22 CUT A CAPER 11 (BF,F) R O'Sullivan 9-7-7 S Wood (3) 2
6 5/0/ PANEL GAME 36J P Butler 7-7-7 J Quinn 5

5-2 Yesican, 3-1 Torghia, 4-1 Take One, 5-1 Cut A Caper, 6-1 Express Account, 16-1 Panel Game.

3.50 COMET HANDICAP (£2,456: 6f) (9)

1 06-3 MY SCENE 28 C Austin 5-10-0 B Doyle (7) 2
2 4223 MURMURING 7 (CD) S Dow 5-9-12 D Biggs (5) 3
3 0P0- RUSHANES 57J T Casey 4-9-11 J Quinn 8
4 821- ANNELI ROSE 37 (B,CD,F) C Cole 4-8-13 T Quinn 5
5 00-8 VILLAGE PET 21 (F) R Bennett 5-8-5 Paul Eddery 6
6 0-45 DOMINO TRICK 11 (F,G) S Dow 5-8-4 S Dawson 4
7 055- MISS KIVE 46 (B) D Chapman 5-7-10 S Wood (3) 9
8 000- TENDER TRAIL 45 C Benstead 4-7-9 S Dawson 7
9 0-50 PETER PUMPKIN 21 (B) R Voorspuy 5-7-7 Jehl Houston (7) 1

5-2 Anneli Rose, 7-2 Murmuring, 9-2 Domino Trick, 5-1 My Scene, 8-1 Village Pet, 10-1 Tender Trail, 12-1 others.

4.20 CENTURION HANDICAP (£2,499: 1m) (10)

1 04-2 CHARMING GIFT 8 R Williams 4-9-10 [illegible] 5
2 35-2 MAID OF ESSEX 11 (C) C Britain 5-9-10 B Doyle (7) 3
3 23-3 SCOTS LAW 28 (CD,F) R O'Sullivan 4-9-9 D Biggs (5) 10
4 50-0 CONCERT PITCH 15 (D,F,G,S) B Palling 12-8-7 N Adams 6
5 00-6 EASTERN SUNSET 11 H Collingridge 4-9-1 C Hawksley (7) 9
6 4-23 INSWINGER 7 W Wightman 5-8-11 J Williams 1
7 0-50 VERRO 8 (B) J Bennett 4-8-9 J Quinn 8
8 -401 MEADS BROW 7 (B,CD) R Voorspuy 5-8-8 S Dawson 4
9 00-0 SPORTING WEDNESDAY 11 (D,F) K Cunningham-Brown 6-8-6 T Quinn 7
10 5-00 SERENIKI 14 P Mitchell 4-8-4 S O'Gorman (5) 2

3-1 Maid Of Essex, 7-2 Scots Law, 4-1 Charming Gift, 5-1 Meads Brow, 6-1 Inswinger; 8-1 Eastern Sunset, 12-1 others.

Results from yesterday's four meetings

Lingfield Park

Going: good (chase course): soft (hurdles); both firm new turf back straight.

1.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, LAUNDRYMAN (M Perrett, 4-6 fav); 2, Homme d'Affaire (M Bowlby, 7-2); 3, Atlantic Cedar (Gee Armytage, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 10 Reggae Yeoman (f), 14 Chatty Fellow (ur), 20 Achilean (pu), Salty Fare (f), 33 Best Smile (4th), 50 Sidebuck (f). 9 ran. NR: Stirrup Cup. 10l, dist, 8l. S Mellor at Swindon. Tote: £1.50; £1.10, £1.50, £5.00. DF: £2.80. CSF: £3.37.

2.0 (2m hdle) 1, POCKETED (M Ahern, 5-1); 2, Topsoil (W Marston, 13-2); 3, Miss Chalk (M Foster, 9-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 5 Auction Time (f), Ribokeyes Boy (4th), 10 Space Lab (pu), 12 Manhattan Boy, 16 Belleikino, 25 Final Flutter (5th), 50 Church Star, Marie Baby, Llanelly (6th). 12 ran. 4l, 10l, 3l, ½l, 4l. J Jenkins at Royston. Tote: £5.10; £2.20, £1.40, £1.70. DF: £39.90. CSF: £36.97. Tricast: £85.87. No bid.

2.30 (3m ch) 1, FARM WEEK (R Guest, 6-1); 2, Lauderdale Lad (J White, 10-11 fav); 3, Le Grand Maitre (R Bellamy, 9-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Eight Springs (5th), 20 Tamino (pu), Kingswood Kitchens (4th), 25 Isaac Newton (6th). 7 ran. 2l, 15l, 20l, 20l, 15l. G Balding at Weyhill. Tote: £7.20; £3.30, £1.20. DF: £6.40. CSF: £11.13.

3.0 (2m 4f hdle) 1, MIAMI IN SPRING (Lorna Vincent, 11-4 fav); 2, Sherwood Gunner (Helen Brennan, 5-1); 3, Torkaber (Mrs P Nash, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Charlie Dickins (4th), 6 Brandon Pier (pu), 7 Myllege, 20 War Child (5th), Judys Line (6th), Final Alma (pu). 9 ran. NR: Ribovino. 12l, 10l, 12l, 6l, 10l. Miss B Sanders at Epsom. Tote: £2.90; £1.40, £2.10, £2.10. DF: £10.60. CSF: £15.90. Tricast: £141.82.

3.30 (2m ch) 1, BE SURPRISED (G Moore, 12-1); 2, Change Wear (J White, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 6-4 fav Jeassu (f), 13-8 Andy Boy (f), 9-2 Battle Blaze (f). 5 ran. 10l. A Moore at Brighton. Tote: £17.40; £2.50, £2.40. DF: £28.90. CSF: £98.98.

4.0 (2m 4f hdle) 1, CELTIC KING (D Murphy, 2-1); 2, Fair Prospect (S Earle, 7-4 fav); 3, Robbie Burns (J Osborne, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Golden Vintage (f), Oh So Ripe (4th), 33 Crystal Song (pu). 6 ran. 6l, dist, 1l. B Curley at Newmarket. Tote: £3.60; £2.00, £1.40. DF: £4.50. CSF: £5.79.

4.30 (2m hdle) 1, VIKING FLAGSHIP (J Lower, 9-4); 2, Oxbow (R Dunwoody, 11-10 fav); 3, Nidomi (M Perrett, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Andermatt (6th), 11 Great Simplicity (4th); 33 Polly Muldowney (5th). 6 ran. NR: Deadlock. 12l, 30l, 15l, dist, dist. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £3.20; £1.90, £1.10. DF: £1.80. CSF: £5.07.

Placepot: £100.00.

Kelso

Going: good (good to firm in places)

1.45 (2m hdle) 1, Kaleidos (G McCourt, 2-1 fav); 2, Arial Star (9-4); 3, Emeritus (16-1). 12 ran. Sh hd, 1½l. N Tinkler. Tote: £4.30; £1.80, £2.10, £2.30. DF: £6.40. CSF: £6.54.

2.15 (2m 195yd ch) 1, Greenheart (C Grant, 11-10 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Tactico (7-4); 3, Marejo (4-1). 3 ran. 2l, 6l. W A Stephenson. Tote: £1.70. DF: £1.50. CSF: £2.90.

2.45 (3m 4f ch) 1, Radical Lady (M Dwyer, 7-2); 2, Snowfire Chap (7-4 fav); 3, What About Me (12-1). 10 ran. Nk, 1½l. G Moore. Tote: £4.90; £1.70, £1.80, £3.70. DF: £4.10. CSF: £9.73. Tricast: £59.74.

3.15 (3m ch) 1, Carousel Rocket (P Niven, 7-2); 2, Bow Handy Man (9-1); 3, Roy's Dream (6-1). Farnworth 5-2 fav. 11 ran. 2l, 7l. J S Wilson. Tote: £4.50; £1.20, £3.90, £1.60. DF: £36.10. CSF: £31.14.

3.45 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Glen Morvern (L O'Hara, 20-1); 2, Stagshaw Belle (11-1); 3, Flowing River (12-1). Cowgate Fountain 8-11 fav. 12 ran. NR: Abbot Of Furness. ¾l, ¾l. W Crawford. Tote: £41.70; £7.70, £3.10, £2.00. DF (winner or second with any other): £3.90. CSF: £218.10.

4.15 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Timurs Double (L O'Hara, 3-1); 2, Carousel Calypso (5-4 fav); 3, All Over The World (50-1). 6 ran. 7l, 15l. W Semple. Tote: £4.80; £2.10, £1.70. DF: £2.40. CSF: £6.92.

Placepot: £534.60.

Bangor

Going: soft

1.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, Sillian (S J O'Neill, 8-1); 2, Quick Reaction (25-1); 3, D'Or's Gem (16-1). Tree Poppy 11-8 fav. 15 ran. NR: Royal Hero. ¾l, 5l. Mrs A Hewitt. Tote: £4.60; £1.20, £6.00, £3.00. DF: £92.10. CSF: £145.71.

2.0 (2m hdle) 1, Peak District (D Bridgwater, 20-1); 2, Ragtime (10-1); 3, Derailed (11-1). Grey Merlin 6-4 fav. 9 ran. NR: Young India. 12l, 25l. K Bridgwater. Tote: £22.80; £2.40, £2.70, £1.20. DF: £148.30. CSF: £180.29. Bought in 4,500gns.

2.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, *Hotplate* (G Bradley, 7-2); 2, Sam Shorrock (20-1); 3, Torside (3-1). Mirage Day 2-1 fav. 7 ran. NR: Green Tops, Ardent Spy, After Four. 6l, dist. D McCain. Tote: £4.30; £2.10, £3.80. DF: £52.50. CSF: £49.73. Tricast: £204.00.

3.0 (3m ch) 1, Mountain Crash (Mr T Eley, 14-1); 2, Clonroche Gazette (9-1); 3, Tamosaga (20-1). Oh Why 3-1 fav. 13 ran. 12l, 4l. A Forbes. Tote: £19.60; £3.80, £3.30, £3.40. DF: £515.40. CSF: £117.82.

3.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Leading Role (P Scudamore, 8-11 fav); 2, Military Band (8-1); 3, Forcello (D J Burchell, 16-1). 14 ran. NR: Hill's Hallo, Bickerstaffe, Glen Nova. 2¾l, 30l. M Pipe. Tote: £1.70; £1.40, £1.70, £2.90. DF: £5.00. CSF: £8.53

4.0 (2m) 1, Abbot Of Furness (N Doughty, 4-5); 2 Fast Cruise (50-1); 3, Way Of Life (8-1). 18 ran. 25l, 6l. G Richards. Tote: £1.60; £1.10, £8.80, £3.00. DF: £53.40. CSF: £39.57.

4.30 (1m 4f flat) 1, Burmese Ruby (W Dwan, 8-1); 2, La Susiana (20-1); 3, Mossy Morning (4-1). Irish Orchid 6-4 fav. 15 ran. NR: Uffmoor Lady. 4l, 3l. C Tinkler. Tote: £10.10; £2.60, £4.30, £2.00. DF: £37.10. CSF: £128.63.

Placepot: £1,782.70.

Southwell

Going: standard

1.40 (5f) 1, Languedoc (D Nicholls, 11-8 fav); 2, Obsidian Grey (10-1); 3, Always Treasure (12-1). 9 ran. Hd, 6l. K McCauley. Tote: £3.60; £1.20, £1.10, £1.80. DF: £4.20. CSF: £16.39.

2.10 (1m 6f) 1, Steppey Lane (Dean McKeown, 4-11 fav); 2, Labudio (5-1); 3, Madam Taylor (11-1). 6 ran. 3l, 7l. W Haigh. Tote: £1.60; £1.10, £1.30. DF: £1.60. CSF: £3.15.

2.40 (1m) 1, Will He Or Wont He (Mick Denaro, 15-8 fav); 2, Barries Pet (8-1); 3, Blazing Fen (10-1). 8 ran. 3l, 1½l. C Allen. Tote: £3.30; £2.00, £4.10, £1.70. DF (winner or second with any other): £1.10. CSF: £7.23.

3.10 (6f) 1, Toshiba Comet (G Husband, 5-2); 2, Sot Aside (9-4); 3, Glencroft (7-4 fav). 5 ran. NR: Glen Maddie. 2½l, 5l. W Pearce. Tote: £4.00; £1.40, £1.60. DF: £2.30. CSF: £8.09.

3.40 (1m) 1, Miss Sarajane (G Husband, 16-1); 2, Euroblake (11-8 fav); 3, Danny Blanchflower (20-1). 16 ran. NR: Jimmy Pip. 1l, 1½l. R Hollinshead. Tote: £14.70; £3.70, £1.30, £5.70. DF: £47.20. CSF: £41.37.

4.10 (7f) 1, Jolly Fisherman (S Wood, 6-1); 2, Tom's Prospect (4-6 fav); 3, Cumming Plan (5-1). 6 ran. NR: Damasz. 4l, 2½l. M Chapman. Tote: £8.50; £1.70, £1.40. DF: £5.40. CSF: £10.47.

Placepot: £14.80.

Chepstow lost

CHEPSTOW, scheduled for today, was called off yesterday because of snow, and Monday's meeting at Wolverhampton is also threatened. The clerk of the course John Ford said yesterday: "There is a light covering of snow on the course though no frost. We will have to watch the situation carefully."

Racing next week

MONDAY: Fontwell Park, Wolverhampton, Southwell (AW).
TUESDAY: Warwick, Carlisle, Lingfield Park (AW).
WEDNESDAY: Ascot, Ludlow, Southwell (AW).
THURSDAY: Wincanton, Huntingdon, Lingfield Park (AW).
FRIDAY: Newbury, Sedgefield, Southwell (AW).
SATURDAY: Newbury, Ayr, Uttoxeter, Catterick Bridge, Lingfield Park (AW).

(Flat meetings in bold)

Blinkered first time

LINGFIELD PARK: 4.20 race: Verro.

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SANDOWN PARK	101	201	301
WETHERBY	102	202	302
CHEPSTOW	103	203	303
STRATFORD	104	204	304
LINGFIELD PARK	105	205	305
IRISH	–	149	–

RECORDED COMMENTARIES + 266

Cosford's dazzling nostalgia

After a quarter of a century of hosting international athletics matches and AAA championships, RAF Cosford is to be supplanted by the Birmingham National Indoor Arena, due to open in October. Our athletics correspondent, ***DAVID POWELL,*** *recalls how Cosford grew from humble beginnings into a stage for the world's fastest times.*

The stage for a golden, record-breaking era: Before the boards come up; Cosford presents another of its big meetings

YESTERDAY'S athletes were from an age of improvisation. If there was no indoor arena, an aircraft hangar would do. If the hall was too small for a sprint, they would start in the church. If the bends had no banking and the athletes were losing grip, they would put down Daz.

"The runners were slipping all over the place, so we thought: 'Surely there must be something we can put down?' We tried sawdust and we tried resin, but they were unsuccessful. Somebody had a packet of Daz and suggested we try it because it was more granular and it worked."

That recollection belongs to Dan Davies, then a squadron leader at Cosford and the man who established the link between the military base and British athletics. He started in 1954 with a 160-yard circuit in the gymnasium. Three decades later Sebastian Coe and Zola Budd turned up and ran world best performances.

Davies, Derek Ibbotson's coach, held evening competitions to break up the monotony of training. "After two or three meetings, they were coming in busloads," he said. Four years later they moved into the hangar and painted a 250-yard track on the concrete floor. In 1964 the boards were laid and, when Wembley became financially prohibitive, Cosford was upgraded in 1965 as the home of the AAA championships.

Not that the banking had an adverse affect on the sales of Daz. "The athletes had no experience of the tight bends and people running in lane four would fall off the edge and drop into the chasms," Ian Hodge, a leading statistician, recalled. If the Daz had not worked, it was over to Elastoplast.

Making-do was the first rule of Cosford athletics. The gymnasium and church were under one roof. "In order to get 60 yards in, we had to get permission from the padre to open the sliding doors between the church and the gym so we could start in the church," Davies said.

In 1968, Cosford hosted its first international fixture but now its days as a big-meeting venue are numbered. This weekend's national championships will be the last there and the Dairy Crest IAAF invitation meeting on February 17 will bring down the curtain — or, should we say, bring up the boards — on 23 years of international competition, although it will continue to stage area, junior and multi-event athletics.

The first international match was against West Germany in 1968, but Cosford had already proved itself by then. The previous winter Rosemary Stirling had set a European best of 56.3sec for 440 yards and Ian McCafferty did the same in the two miles with 8min 36.4sec. Two years later Cosford saw Ian Stewart lower McCafferty's mark to 8:32.2 and, in 1970, Mary Peters maintained the flow with a world best 8.5sec in the 60 metres hurdles.

In 1971, Margaret Beacham set a 1,500 metres world best (4:20.5) and in 1974 Geoff Capes, with a 20.82 metres shot, became the first British thrower to break a European record since Arthur Rowe more than a decade before. And so it went on. But Cosford's most memorable moment was reserved for Sebastian Coe.

Coe set an 800 metres world best in the match against the United States in 1983. The previous best time was 1:46.4; Coe ran 1:44.91. "I am nowhere near racing fit," Coe said. Well, it was not a race, was it? Peter Elliott, second, was two seconds behind.

Over to Zola Budd. In 1986, in front of a 5,000 crowd assembled for the match against Hungary, Budd ran 3,000 metres in 8:39.79. Barefoot, of course, but with tape round her toes for protection against abrasions.

How fitting it would be for Cosford to bow out a fortnight hence with a world record. Michael Johnson was the world's fastest 200 metres runner outdoors last summer and, last weekend, set a United States indoor record of 20.55sec, 0.19sec outside Bruno Marie-Rose's world record.

That was Johnson's first race of the season. "Maybe I will be running at a better level by Cosford," he said. Somebody pass him the Daz.

The stereotype in danger of destroying a myth

By David Miller

THE British are addicted affectionately to stereotypes, to opposing extremes. David Niven was the smooth gent, Albert Finney the lovable rogue. It is the same in sport: Charlton and Stiles, Coe and Ovett, Gower and Gatting.

For eight years, Peter Elliott has been the honest, rough-hewn, working-class Rotherham lad trying to break into the elite of world athletics, the field persistently dominated by other, more famous British runners. Here was the Yorkshire carpenter, modest but gritty, whose limit seemed to be heroic silver medals; until, a year ago this Saturday, he won the Commonwealth 1,500 metres gold medal in Auckland. Mr Average had finally made it.

Part of Elliott's appeal has been that, even when not harassed by controversy, which has repetitively dogged him since the Olympic Games of 1984, he has often carried the aura of the underdog, the plebian challenging the aristocrats, dependent more on hard work than talent. As is the way of stereotyping, it was unfair. Maybe this year's World Championships and next year's Olympic Games will finally dispel the myth.

Not only is Elliott, aged 28, a credible candidate to win the 1,500 metres in both Tokyo and Barcelona — against outstanding opposition — but it is not beyond possibility that he could lower the world record of 3min 29.46sec set by Said Aouita in 1985, and previously held by Coe, Ovett and Cram.

"I think I *could* break the record," Elliott says, relaxing at home with the two alsatians that are a convenient dissuasion for any doorstepping, gossip-mongering tabloid hacks. "But I am chasing nothing. This year, my concentration is exclusively on Tokyo. If the record happens, that would be great. But medals . . . .they can't take them away from you. That's what counts."

Last year, to a degree, went frustratingly wrong. Following his winter triumph in Auckland, with a personal best of 3min 32.69sec, he emerged for the start of the summer season — out of schedule with his training — but with a spectacular 800 metres in Seville: the twelfth fastest ever, 1min 42.92sec, beaten only by Coe, Cruz, Koskei, Gray and Cram.

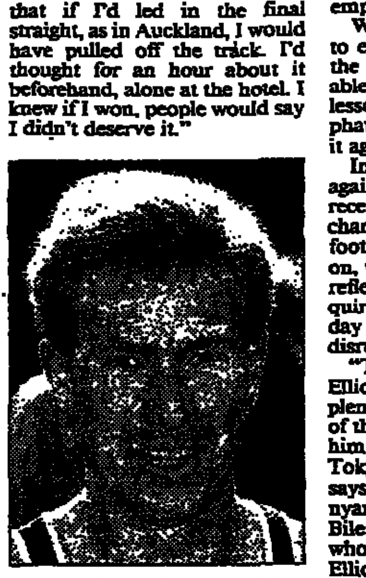
"It was a shock," Elliott says. "I didn't think I was that good. If I'd run the 1,500 later that week, I think I could have beaten the record, I was in such good shape".

Instead, he continued training. Too hard. As every leading contemporary athlete has discovered, working at such peaks of physical perfection — Walker, Coe, Ovett, Cram, Bile, Aouita — Elliott was sailing close to the wind. His calf muscle went, then he contracted a virus, and his preparation for the European championships was in disarray.

He watched on television the turmoil of the AAA trials in which Halliday was run off the track, and telephoned Kim McDonald, his coach. "A controversy that I am actually not involved in!" he said with mock relief. Even worse, however, was awaiting him when he arrived in Split, still two week's weeks short of full fitness.

His innocent fall in the European semi-final, and his contrived reinstatement in the final, was a more harrowing experience even than the selection controversies of 1984 and 1988 centred around him and Coe.

"I oughtn't to have been in the final," he says. "People don't believe me when I've said that if I'd led in the final straight, as in Auckland, I would have pulled off the track. I'd thought for an hour about it beforehand, alone at the hotel. I knew if I won, people would say I didn't deserve it."



Elliott: fights for everything

Everything Elliott has achieved, he has fought for and deserved: his 800 metres silver in the world championships in 1987, his 1,500 metres silver in Seoul, with five painkilling injections from the moment when he seized up with a pelvic strain during the warm-up for the 800 metres final.

"The doctor said I ought to drop out, but I wasn't doing that a second time in an Olympics, having scratched from the semi-final of the 800 in Los Angeles with a stress fracture." In the two days between the 800 metres — fourth behind Ereng, Cruz and Aouita — and the 1,500 metres heats, he could hardly walk.

Brendan Foster, whose courageous running of the Seventies heralded the start of a new era of British athletics, has said that Elliott was for years running the wrong — shorter — event. Even now, it is not clear at precisely which point he shifted his focus to the 1,500 metres. It happened some time between the world championships in Rome and Seoul; the period in which he also switched coaches, from Wilf Paish to McDonald.

Paish says that it was apparent that Elliott's lack of basic 400 metres speed made it better to concentrate on the 1,500 metres, yet it was McDonald who adjusted the training emphasis.

Whether McDonald was right to encourage Elliott to attempt the double in 1988 is questionable: though Elliott, from the lessons of Seoul, is now emphatic that "I wouldn't attempt it again".

Injury has overtaken him again now. Two days before the recent Durham cross-country championships, Elliott put his foot down a pothole; he carried on, won the race, but now has a reflected back strain that requires physiotherapy twice a day and enforces a training disruption.

"That's life, at this level," Elliott says, undismayed. "I've plenty of time." The experience of the past eight years has made him philosophical. "The field in Tokyo is going to be tough" he says. "Kirochi [the latest Kenyan phenomenon]. Aouita, Bile, Herold, Cram. We'll see who is on the line on the day." If Elliott is, it will not be easy for the others.

SA return is still in doubt

From David Miller in Monte Carlo

THE return of South Africa to international sport, and specifically to the Olympic Games in Barcelona next year, will be dependent on, and delayed by, constitutional legalities. This was emphasised during the International Athletic Foundation symposium on sport and law, which continued here yesterday.

It is possible that the anti-apartheid commission of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) will find — during the first IOC visit to South Africa in 20 years at the end of next month — that the latest removal of apartheid laws, together with multi-racial sports changes, have removed remaining obstacles to South Africa's international readmission. "It will be a penetrating investigation and we shall be prepared to act quickly if possible," Francois Carrard, the IOC's director-general, said yesterday. Yet he thinks it is optimistic to believe that South Africa could send a team to Barcelona.

A basic condition for athletics, for instance, requires that South Africa, previously expelled, be re-elected by the International Amateur Athletic Federation. To be effective for 1992, that would have to be done at the congress during the world championships in Tokyo in August; for it to be on the Tokyo agenda, an application would have to be made this month.

Similar conditions will apply to other international federations from which South Africa has been banned, and could not be overridden by the IOC even though it might conceivably be possible for the reconstituted South African National Olympic Committee to be readmitted — with the approval of black African sports organisations such as the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa — at the IOC session at Birmingham in June.

In some sports such as tennis and gymnastics, in which South Africa has retained international federation membership without competing, readmission to competition can be almost instant — provided the sport has fulfilled the condition of a single, non-discriminatory national governing body.

Another important development taking place in the symposium is agreements between promoters of the European grand prix athletics meetings for the uniform exclusion of drug offenders.

Andreas Brugger, of Zurich, and Sven Arne Hansen, of Oslo — organisers of the two main meetings — consider that a permanent ban from the financial benefits of the grand prix, in conjunction with random testing, can finally put a serious restraint on rampant drug abuse.

Brugger proposes that there should be an amnesty for offences prior to 1991. "In view of recent disclosures, it would be wholly inconsistent to exclude Ben Johnson," Brugger said. However, he and Hansen want an agreed limit on the fee available to Johnson — in proportion to other leading competitors and not the inflated figures being offered by ambitious minor meetings like Malmö.

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THE TIMES

A GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

3.0 unless stated

FOOTBALL

Barclays League
First division

A Villa v Derby Co
Chelsea v Arsenal (all ticket)
Everton v Sunderland
Luton v QPR
Norwich v Manchester City
Nottm Forest v C Palace
Sheffield Utd v Southampton
Tottenham v Leeds Utd (all ticket)
Wimbledon v Coventry

Second division

Barnsley v Blackburn
Bristol C v West Bromwich
Charlton v Brighton
Hull v Bristol R
Ipswich v Millwall
Leicester v Plymouth
Middlesbrough v Swindon
Newcastle v Port Vale
Oxford v Oldham
Portsmouth v Notts Co
Watford v Sheffield Wed
Wolves v West Ham (all ticket)

Third division

Bradford v Bournemouth
Brentford v Rotherham
Bury v Swansea
Exeter v Birmingham
Huddersfld v Grimsby
L Orient v Tranmere
Preston v Bolton
Shrewsbury v Southend
Stoke v Chester
Wigan v Fulham

Fourth division

Burnley v Blackpool
Carlisle v Stockport
Chesterfield v Lincoln
Gillingham v Hereford
Rochdale v Hartlepool
Scunthorpe v Torquay
Walsall v Doncaster
Wrexham v Maidstone
York v Darlington

GM Vauxhall Conference

Boston v Barnet
Macclesfield v Sutton Utd
Yeovil v Fisher Ath

Tennents Scottish Cup
Third round

Ross County v Meadowbank

B and Q Scottish League
Premier division

Aberdeen v Hearts
Celtic v Dundee Utd
Hibernian v Motherwell
St Johnstone v Rangers
St Mirren v Dunfermline

First division

Brechin v Clyde
Dundee v Hamilton
Forfar v Raith R
Kilmarnock v Clydebank
Morton v Falkirk
Partick v Ayr Utd

Second division

Albion R v Stirling A
Alloa v Stranraer
Berwick v E Stirling
Cowdenbeath v Arbroath
Dumbarton v Stenhousemuir
East Fife v Queens Park
Montrose v Queen of South

FA TROPHY: Second round: Altrincham v Gateshead; Barrow v Kettering; Colchester v Runcorn; Dartford v Cheltenham; Enfield v Wivenhoe; Farnborough v Bath; Horwich v Gretna; Hyde v Emley; Kidderminster v Dover; Merthyr v Gloucester; Northwich v Droylsden; Redbridge Forest v Frickley; Stroud v Burton; VS Rugby v Wycombe; Welling v Aylesbury; Witton v South Bank.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bangor City v Southport; Bishop Auckland v Matlock; Chorley v South Liverpool; Morecambe v Goole; Mossley v Marine; Shepshed v Fleetwood; Stalybridge v Leek. First division: Alfreton v Caernarfon; Bridlington Town v Winsford; Farsley Celtic v Netherfield; Harrogate v Curzon Ashton; Lancaster City v Congleton; Newtown v Workington; Rossendale v Whitley Bay; Warrington v Eastwood Town; Worksop v Rhyl.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Wealdstone; Bashley v Rushden; Crawley v Worcester; Dorchester v Gravesend; Halesowen v Weymouth; Moor Green v Bromsgrove; Poole v Chelmsford. Midland division: Alvechurch v Newport AFC; Barry v Willenhall; Bedworth v Redditch; Bilston v Nuneaton Borough; Corby v Bridgnorth; Dudley v Spalding; Grantham v Leicester Utd; RC Warwick v Hinckley; Stourbridge v Tamworth; Sutton Coldfield v King's Lynn. Southern division: Buckingham v Newport IOW; Burnham v Margate; Canterbury v Dunstable; Corinthian v Baldock; Hastings v Erith and Belvedere; Sudbury v Andover; Trowbridge v Hythe; Witney v Salisbury; Yate v Bury.

OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Arsenal v Fulham; Southampton v Portsmouth (2.0).

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards v Distillery; Ballyclare v Bangor; Coleraine v Newry; Crusaders v Glentoran; Larne v Glenavon; Linfield v Carrick; Omagh v Cliftonville; Portadown v Ballymena.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Ashton Utd v Flixton; Bootle v Colwyn Bay; Darwen v Atherton LR; Knowsley v Eastwood Hanley; Leyland DAF v Penrith; Maine Road v Bacup Borough; Nantwich v Salford; Prescot v Skelmersdale; Vauxhall GM v Clitheroe.

ABACUS WELSH LEAGUE: National division: Ammanford v Cwmbran; Bridgend v Llanelli; Briton Ferry v Haverfordwest; Ferndale v Afan Lido; Maesteg v Aberystwyth; Pembroke v Inter Cardiff; Port Talbot v Abergavenny.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Chippenham v Weston-super-Mare; Frome v Liskeard Athletic; Mangotsfield v Bristol Manor Farm; Radstock v Plymouth Argyle; Tiverton v Ottery St Mary; Torrington v Welton Rovers.

WEEKLY WYNNER LEAGUE: Premier division: Denaby v Ossett Albion; Spennymoor v Sutton Town; Guiseley v North Shields; Harrogate Railway v Brigg; North Ferriby v Armthorpe Welfare; Ossett Town v Belper; Pontefract Col v Maltby MW; Winterton R v Thackley.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Blyth Spartans v Whitby; Consett v Billingham Synthonia; Durham v Shildon; Guisborough v Whickham; Murton v Brandon; Newcastle Blue Star v Stockton; Peterlee Newtown v Alnwick; Tow Law v Northallerton.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Braintree v Great Yarmouth; Cornard v Lowestoft; Felixstowe v Gorleston; Haverhill v Tiptree; March Town v Stowmarket.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Arthur Dunn Cup: Old Bradfieldians v Old Brentwoods; Lancing Old Boys v Old Etonians; Old Reptonians v Old Aldenhamians; Old Wellingburians v Old Carthusians. Premier division: Old Malvernians v Old Foresters; Old Salopians v Old Chigwellians. First division: Old Haileyburians v Old Cholmeleians; Old Wykehamists v Old Ardinians.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Devon FA v Army FA (Bideford FC, 2.0).

TENNIS

VAUXHALL MEN'S INDOOR TROPHY: Barnard Castle v Sunderland; Darlington v Middlesbrough; Birchwood v Ilkley; Wrexham v Newport; Nottingham v Edgbaston Priory; Sutton v Alfreton; Harpenden v St Albans; Welwyn v Connaught Club, London; Heston v Middlesex Polytechnic; Ealing v Islington; Chiswick v LCTA, London; Woking v Hove; Crawley v Eastbourne; Gravesend v Maidstone; Finchley v Walton; Queen's Club, London v Roehampton; Southampton v Bournemouth; Basingstoke v Kingsley; Weston-super-Mare v Bath.

BASKETBALL

8.0 unless stated

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Hemel Hempstead v London Docklands; Thames Valley v Kingston (7.30); Worthing v Manchester. Second division: Brixton v Coventry (2.0); Plymouth v Middlesbrough (7.30). Third division: Birmingham v North London (6.0); Calderdale v Cardiff; Chiltern v Cheshire; Fylde v Barnsley; Leicester v Swindon (6.0). Women: First division: London YMCA v Brixton (6.0); Rhondda v Ipswich (6.0). Second division: Doncaster v Northampton (4.0); Leicester v Swindon (4.0); Harlesden v Kirklees (6.0); Hemel Hempstead v South Tyneside (6.0).

NATIONAL TROPHY: Men: Quarter-finals: Oldham v Broxbourne; Watford v Bury.

COCA-COLA CUP: Women: Semi-finals: Crystal Palace v Sheffield (6.0); Nottingham v Northampton (7.30).

HOCKEY

POUNDSTRETCHER NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Southgate v Wakefield (Broomfield School, 1.30). Second division: Lyons v Guildford (Dairy Meadow, Southall, 2.30).

ERNST AND YOUNG MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxwich v Leicester Westleigh; Coventry and North Warwickshire v Beeston; John Player v Olton and West Warwickshire; Kidderminster v Belper.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop's Stortford v Pelicans; Bury St Edmunds v Harleston Magpies; Cambs Nomads v Chelmsford; Colchester v Ipswich; Norwich City v Crostyx; Peterborough v Blueharts; Westcliff v Ford; Wisbech v Bedford.

AW YARNS NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Bowdon v Ben Rhydding; Durham University v Hightown Northern; Liverpool Sefton v Brooklands; Norton v Preston; Ramgarhia v Formby; Sheffield v Alderley Edge; Timperley v Stockton; Tynemouth v Disley.

TIPP-EX YORKSHIRE LEAGUE: Harrogate v Bradford; Sheffield Bankers v Farsley; Huddersfield v Lincoln; Rotherham v Halifax; Chapeltown v York; Adel v Grimsby; Brigg v Bardsey; York CS Trojans v Appleby Frodingham; Rosses v Driffield.

MTM NORTH EAST LEAGUE: Redcar v Carlisle; Sunderland v Swalwell; Marton Furness v South Shields; Billingham v St Georges; Whitehaven v Darlington; Tynedale v Morpeth.

HALPERN AND WOOLF NORTH WEST LEAGUE: Blackburn v Wigan; Cheetham Hill v Southport; Knutsford v Sale; Macclesfield v Springfields; Manchester v Prescot; Manchester YMCA v Oxton; Northop Hall v Chester; West Derby v Deeside Ramblers.

SUN LIFE WEST LEAGUE: Premier division: Bath Buccs v Bridgwater; Cheltenham v Exeter Crickets; Clevedon v Hereford; Otter Vale v Plymouth; Swindon v Gloucester; West Gloucestershire v Exeter University; Westbury Banks v Marlborough.

ICE HOCKEY

6.30 unless stated

HEINEKEN NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardiff v Durham; Fife v Solihull (7.15); Murrayfield v Whitley; Nottingham v Ayr; Peterborough v Cleveland. First division: Basingstoke v Swindon (6.0); Glasgow v Slough (4.45); Humberside v Trafford (5.15); Telford v Medway (7.30).

ENGLISH LEAGUE: Blackburn v Haringey; Milton Keynes v Sunderland (6.0); Richmond v Chelmsford (5.30).

LACROSSE

SOUTH OF ENGLAND ASSOCIATION: First division: Bath v Hitchin; Hampstead v London University; Hillcroft v Oxford University; Kenton v Purley. Second division: Buckhurst Hill v Hillcroft A; Chipstead v Croydon; Orpington v Kenton A; Southampton University v Cambridge University.

BRINE NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Cheadle v Sheffield University; Heaton Mersey v Old Stopfordians. Second division: Mellor A v Leeds University; Rochdale v Heaton Mersey A; Urmston v Old Waconians A.

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Pearl Assurance AAA-WAAA indoor championships (Cosford); BSSF cross-country championships (Sunderland).

BADMINTON: Scottish championships (Edinburgh).

FENCING: British women's epee championships; Leon Paul Cup: Men's International (London).

RACKETS: Open singles championships (Queen's Club).

RUGBY UNION

Five nations' championship

Ireland v France (at Lansdowne Road, 2.45)
Scotland v Wales (at Murrayfield, 2.30)

ADT county championship
Semi-finals

Cornwall v Warwickshire (at Redruth, 2.15)
Yorkshire v Middlesex (at Otley, 2.15)

Club matches

Bath v Coventry
Bedford v Rosslyn Park (12.0)
Birmingham v Lydney (2.30)
Cambridge Univ v Askeans (2.30)
Fylde v Richmond (2.15)
Hawick v Hartlepool R (2.15)
Headingley v Vale of Lune
Leicester v Wakefield
L Welsh v Harlequins (2.30)
Met Police v Saracens
Morley v Waterloo
Moseley v Rugby
Northampton v Blackheath
Nottingham v N Gosforth
Sheffield v Harrogate
Wasps v Sale
W Hartlepool v Liverpool St H (2.30)

SCOTLAND: Club matches: Corstorphine v Jed-Forest; Haddington v Melrose; Hawick v Hartlepool Rovers; Langholm v Kendal; Musselburgh v Perthshire; Preston Lodge FP v Leith Academicals; Stewarts Melville FP v Glasgow Academicals.

SOUTH WEST: Bristol and District Cup: Clevedon v Ashley Down; Clifton Wndrs v Whitehall;Oldfield v Dings Crusaders; Thornbury v Keynsham. Bristol and District Plate: BAC v St Mary's Old Boys; Bristol Harlequins v Yatton; Imperial v Stapleton; Old Elizabethans v Cleve. Club matches: Avonvale v North Dorset; Bridgwater v Newbury; Bath CS v Backwell; Bristol Telephones; Bristol Utd v Gloucester Utd; Bristol Saracens v Melksham; Cheddar v Midsomer Norton Utd; Chipping Sodbury v Old Colstonians; Clifton v Plymouth Albion; Cotham Park v SW Gas; Falmouth v Camborne; Frampton Cotterell v Sherborne; Frome v Southampton; Midsomer Norton v Corsham; Okehampton v Devon and Cornwall Police; Old Culverhaysians v Bath Spartans; Old Redcliffians v Bishopston; Old Bristolians v St Bernardette's; Old Sulians v Old Cryptians; Paignton v Newquay Hornets; Penzance and Newlyn v St Ives; Plymouth Argaum v Bodmin; Redruth v Stroud; Stourbridge v Taunton; Taunton Utd v North Petherton; Torquay Ath v Glamorgan Wanderers; Truro v Launceston; Wincsombe v Bridgwater Utd; Weston-super-Mare v Brixham; Wellington v Bideford; Walcot v Bream; Yeovil v Tor.

NORTH: Club matches: Ashton-on-Mersey v Whitchurch; Ashton-under-Lyne v Oldham; Bradford University v Bradford and Bingley XV; Bramley v Northwich; Burley v Moortown XV; Burnage v Rochdale; Buxton v Uttoxeter; Carnforth v Bury; Chester v Huddersfield; Chorley v Metrovick; Crewe and Nantwich v Oldershaw; *Denum Phoenix* v Hull Ionians XV; Darlington v Hartlepool; Didsbury Toc H v Halifax Vandals; Doncaster v West Leeds; Dronfield v Knottingley; Dukinfield v Old Bedians; Durham University v Novocastrians; East Retford v Heath; Goole v Malton and Norton; Halton v Port Sunlight; Heaton Moor v Congleton; Hemsworth v Dinnington; Hessle v Old Otliensians; Hullensians v Old Modernians; Hull Ionians v Manchester; Ilkley v Cleckheaton; Keighley v Rotherham; Kendal XV v Upper Eden; Knaresborough v Hull and ER; Leeds CSSA v Horsea; Leeds Corinthians v Ossett; Lymm v Davenport; Macclesfield v Leek; Manchester XV v Bowdon; Middlesbrough v Broughton Park; Middlesbrough Wasps v Billingham; Moortown v York RI; Morley Cavaliers v Barnsley; Newark v Chesterfield; Newcastle University v Ryton; Newton-le-Willows v Furness; Northallerton v Wheatley Hills; North Ribblesdale v Baildon; Old Aldwinians v De la Salle (Salford); Old Hymerians v Old Crossleyans; Old Rishworthians v Colne and Nelson; Ormskirk v St Edwards Old Boys; Otley v Wharfedale; Phoenix Park v Morley XV; Pocklington v Sheffield Tigers; Redcar Mariners v Barnard Castle; Richmondshire v Rowntrees; Ripon v Wensleydale; Roundhay XV v Adwick; Roundhegians v Leodiensians; St Mary's Old Boys v Ruskin Park; Sandal v Pontefract; Sandbach v Orrell XV; Scarborough v Guisborough; Scunthorpe v Old Brodleians; Seaton Carew v Bishop Auckland; Selby v Mansfield; Sheffield XV v Castle College; Sheffield Medics v Sheffield University; Sheffield Oaks v Bradford and Bingley Barbarians; Sheffield Oaks XV v Mosborough; Skipton v Airebronians; Stocksbridge v Huddersfield YMCA XV; Stockton v Durham City; Thornensians v Beverley; Tyldesley v Merseyside Police; Wallasey v New Brighton XV; Warrington v Wigan; Wath v Market Rasen; West Park Bramhope v Acklam; Wetherby v Rodillians; Whitby v Bridlington; Wibsey v Leeds YMCA; Widnes v Caldy; Winnington Park v Tynedale; Wirral v Sefton; Withernsea v Barton; York v Castleford; Yorkshire CW v De la Salle (Sheff). Yorkshire Shield: Quarter-final: Driffield v Redcar; Yarnbury v Bradford Salem.

MIDLANDS: Club matches: Alcester v Birmingham Welsh; Ashton on Mersey v Whitchurch; Aylestone Athletic v AEI Rugby; Aylestonians v Corby; Aylestone St James v Old Bosworthians; Bacavians v Bedford Athletic; Barkers Butts v Newbold-on-Avon; Bedworth v Thimblemill; Belgrave v Kibworth; Berkswell and Balsall v Edwardians; Bewdley v Shottery; Biggleswade v Cambridge; Birmingham and Solihull v Lydney; Bishops Castle v Market Drayton; Bournville v Old Griffinians; Brackley v Ampthill; Braunston Town v Coventry Technical; Bridgnorth v Bromsgrove; Broad Street v Erdington; Bromyard v Bromsgrove Crusaders; Buckingham v Northampton OS; Bugbrooke v Jaguar (Coventry); Burbage v New Parks Old Boys; Buxton v Uttoxeter; Cannock v GEC St Leonards; Colworth House v Old Wellingburians; Coventry Saracens v Rugby St Andrews; Danum Phoenix v Tupton; Datchworth v Vauxhall Motors; Daventry v Old Laurentians; Derby v Birkenhead Park; Driffield v Market Rasen and Louth; Dronfield v Mosborough; Dudley v Kettering; Dunlop v Selly Oak; Earlsdon v All Spartans; East Leake v Rainworth; East Retford v Heath; Eccleshall v Old Oaks; Evesham v Upton-on-Severn; Five Ways OE v Nuneaton OE; GEC Coventry v Nottingham Casuals; Gosford All Blacks v Northampton Casuals; Handsworth v Aston Old Edwardians; Harworth Colliery v Barton and District; Hereford v Ludlow; High Wycombe v Leighton Buzzard; Huntingdon v Old Cantabrigians; Ilkeston v South Leicester; Keresley v Trinity Guild; Kesteven v Leesbrook Asterdale; Kidderminster Carolians v Woodrush; Kings Norton v Coventry Welsh; Kynoch v Wednesbury; Leamington v Matlock; Ledbury v Cheltenham CS; Lichfield v Loughborough Students; Lincoln v Loughborough; Long Buckby v Old Newtonians; Long Eaton v Ashbourne; Lutterworth v St Neots; Macclesfield v Leek; Matson v Luctonians; Market Bosworth v Stoneygate; Meden Vale v Ollerton; Beverconians; Moderns v Paviors; Newark v Chester; Newcastle (Staffs) v Old Saltleians; North Kesteven v Boston; Northampton Mens Own v Southam; Nottinghamians v Spalding; Old Ashbeians v Rugeley; Old Coventrians v Old Yardleians; Old Halesonians v Dixonians; Old Leamingtonians v Kenilworth; Olney v Wellingborough; Old Moseleians v Pinley; Old Warwickians v Silhillians; Old Wheatleyans v Claverdon; Pershore v Shipston-on-Stour; Peterborough v Burton-on-Trent; Rushden and Higham v Northampton Trinity; Sankey Vending v Stoke Old Boys; Scunthorpe v Brodleians; Selby v Mansfield; Shepshed v Ashfield Swans; Shrewsbury v Walsall; Sleaford v Oadby Wyggestonians; Southwell v Grimsby; Spartans v Atherstone; Standard v Rubery Owen; St Ives v Swaffham; Stourbridge v Taunton; Stratford-upon-Avon v Coventry Post Office; Sudbury v Stockwood Park; Sutton Coldfield v Hinckley; Syston v Melton Mowbray; Towcestrians v Banbury; Tring v Dunstablians; Warley v Droitwich; Wath v Amber Valley; West Bridgford v Coalville; Westleigh v Tamworth; Wigston v Old Northamptonians; Willenhall v Newport; Wisbech v Cutler Hammer; West Leicester v Manor Park; West Midlands Police v Vesseyans; Worcester v Camp Hill; Wrexham v Stoke-on-Trent; Wulfrun v Burntwood; Yardley and District v Coventrians;

IRELAND: Senior club: Bective Rangers v CIYMS (12.0); Clontarf v Old Crescent (11.30); Lansdowne v University College Cork (11.30); Old Wesley v Queens University (11.30); Monkstown v City of Derry (11.30); Corinthians v Academy (11.30); Waterpark v Avenir-A-Tourist (Anglesea Road, 11.30).

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Wigan v Hull KR (2.45).

TOMORROW

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

Barclays League
First division

Manchester Utd v Liverpool (all ticket)

VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Dagenham v Leyton-Wingate (12.0).

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Cork City v Waterford; Derry v Bohemians; Galway v Limerick; St Patrick's v Sligo; Shamrock v Athlone.

RUGBY UNION

SOUTH EAST: Bass Hampshire Cup: Fourth round: Alton v Eastleigh; Basingstoke v Jersey; Portsmouth v Havant; Tottonians v US Portsmouth. Bass Hampshire Plate: Second round: Esso v Hants Police; Southampton v Nomads; Southampton Hospital v Fareham H; Southampton University v New Milton.

Foster Beard Middlesex Cup: Third round: Hackney v Antlers; Hampstead v Centaurs; Hendon v Finchley; London Welsh v Grasshoppers; Northolt v Lensbury; Old Abbotstonians v OMT; Old Meadonians v Pinner and Grammarians; Old Millhillians v Feltham; Orleans FP v HAC; Roxeth Manor OB v Wembley; Ruislip v Harrow; Staines v Kingsburians; Twickenham v West End Pot; U Clapton v Ealing; WLIHE v Ealing CHE.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Castleford v Leeds (6.30); Hull v Rochdale (3.15); Oldham v St Helens; Sheffield v Featherstone (3.15); Warrington v Bradford; Widnes v Wakefield. Second division: Barrow v Hunslet; Batley v Bramley (2.30); Chorley v Leigh; Fulham v Swinton; Halifax v Whitehaven; Nottingham v Keighley; Runcorn v Carlisle; Salford v Dewsbury; Trafford v Doncaster (1.0); Workington v Huddersfield.

HOCKEY

POUNDSTRETCHER NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Southgate v Hounslow (Broomfield School, 12.30); Wakefield v Indian Gymkhana (Featherstone SC, 2.0). Second division: Brean v Reading (Edgarley Hall School, Glastonbury, 1.45); Cambridge City v Doncaster (Coldhams Common, 1.0); Firebrands v Warrington (Bristol University 1.30); Gorecourt v Canterbury (Anchorians SC, Gillingham, 2.30); Richmond v Broxbourne (Teddington School, Broom Road, 2.30); Taunton Vale v Bournville (Taunton School, 12.0); Trojans v Harborne (Stoneham Lane, Eastleigh, 1.45).

BASKETBALL

4.0 unless stated

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: London Docklands v Manchester; Sunderland v Derby (6.0). Second division: Brixton v Middlesbrough. Third division: Cheshire v Kirklees (8.0). Women: First division: Ipswich v Northampton; London Jets v Manchester. Second division: Kirklees v Sunderland. Postponed: Wirral v Harlesden.

NATIONAL TROPHY: Men: Quarter-final: Cardiff v Cheshire.

ICE HOCKEY

6.30 unless stated

HEINEKEN NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardiff v Nottingham; Cleveland v Durham (5.15); Murrayfield v Fife; Peterborough v Ayr; Whitley v Solihull. First division: Bracknell v Humberside (5.15); Glasgow v Slough (4.45); Lee Valley v Basingstoke (5.30); Telford v Swindon (7.30); Trafford v Romford (5.30).

ENGLISH LEAGUE: Chelmsford v Milton Keynes; Haringey v Sunderland (6.0); Oxford City v Sheffield (5.30).

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Pearl Assurance AAA-WAAA indoor championships (Cosford).

BADMINTON: Scottish championships (Edinburgh)

FENCING: British women's epee championships; Leon Paul Cup: Men's International (London).

RACKETS: Open singles championships (Queen's Club).

SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges International Masters (Wembley).

THE TIMES

UNIT TRUST STATISTICS

Monthly performance figures show value of £100 based on offer to offer prices without income re-invested and ranking within their sector. Yearly figures are based on offer to bid prices with income re-invested. – Unit trust was founded in the past year. †PEP scheme available. *Source: Finstat.*

UK GENERAL

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Abbey Gen	146.9	157.1	97.6	54	78.8	77
Abbey Income & Gth	261.2	279.8	98.0	44	82.8	55
Allied Dunbar Accumulator	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	17	[illegible]	[illegible]
† Allied Dunbar Asset Value	339.4	361.4	97.5	59	85.6	29
† Allied Dunbar Balanced	450.6	479.8	98.0	17	83.0	9
† Allied Dunbar Growth & Inc	159.2	169.5	99.7	9	87.7	19
Ascot Gth	68.81	72.77	97.5	59	67.3	99
† Avon Equity	80.38	85.51	98.2	35	91.2	4
† Barclays Uni 500	278.5	290.5	95.5	97	72.3	94
† Barclays Uni Gen	172.1	184.1	97.6	49	84.5	37
Barclays Uni Trustee	130.6	139.0	97.6	54	75.9	88
Barclaytrust Invest	227.2	238.7	97.6	54	81.3	60
Baring Portfolio	82.60	85.96	98.9	21	86.3	19
† Bishopsgate PEP Inc	97.97	103.4	95.6	92	91.9	3
Brands UK & Gen	28.85	30.69	100.6	2	81.2	102
Brown Shipley PEP	49.28	52.51	101.2	1	—	—
Brown Shipley UK Gen	101.5	108.1	98.7	25	78.2	79
Brycourt Income Gth	158.6	164.9	98.1	86	82.5	58
Buckmaster Inv Portfolio	44.36	46.42	96.9	70	78.1	75
Cannon Gth	33.40	35.72	94.9	101	82.1	38
† Capability Income & Gth	280.7	298.7	96.5	90	83.2	49
Capital Hse Asset Value	144.8	154.0	95.6	95	63.9	45
CCL UK Gen	45.76	48.70	95.1	99	77.1	84
Clerical Med General Equity	53.44	56.40	98.3	34	86.1	27
Colonial Mutual Capital	43.72	45.89	98.8	21	79.2	74
† Confederation Gth	35.42	37.88	97.9	46	84.7	34
Consistent Tst	24.42	26.06	99.0	17	92.2	2
Cornhill UK Equity	42.19	44.88	95.9	89	73.1	93
† Crown Gth	295.8	318.4	96.9	70	83.9	46
CS Portfolio	55.76	59.31	95.9	89	73.2	92
† CU Grifter Gen	88.79	95.52	99.3	15	85.1	30
† CU UK & Gen	53.03	56.41	95.4	98	77.6	83
Discretionary	106.6	112.2	95.9	89	87.8	98
† Eagle Star UK Balanced	79.86	84.98	96.9	70	78.1	81
† Equitable Pelican	89.54	94.25	98.8	75	81.3	64
Equity & Law Gen	298.3	317.4	98.4	30	88.4	13
† Equity & Law UK Gth	164.6	175.4	98.4	30	87.8	18
† Fidelity Growth & Inc	108.4	117.4	96.6	79	80.0	71
Fleming Capital Portfolio	97.40	100.7	96.1	85	78.7	78
† Framlington Income & Gth	134.4	142.9	98.7	78	66.8	97
Friends Prov Equity	244.87	260.50	99.0	17	85.8	85
GA Gen	155.1	164.4	98.5	28	84.5	39
GAM UK Diversified	104.92	110.98	97.4	64	—	—
GAM UK Special	98.86	103.04	88.5	105	64.8	100
Gartmore UK Index	95.26	98.75	98.1	49	87.4	25
GRE Guardhill	300.8	317.9	95.8	75	75.8	89
Gains Mahon T B Sm Cos	164.7	176.1	94.1	103	63.8	103
Henderson Inc & Assets	127.7	137.36	98.8	21	82.7	54
† Henderson Income & Gth	175.45	187.87	97.7	52	80.0	50

Fund	Bid price	Offer price
Royal Life Equity Growth Acc	185.6	198.5
† Royal Life UK Emrg Cos	32.66	36.92
† Royal London Spec Sits	108.3	115.2
Royal London UK Gth	45.99	48.90
† S&P Scotshares	185.6	197.4
† S&P Special Sits	81.36	86.94
† S&P UK Equity	190.5	202.9
† S&P UK Smlr Cos Gth	36.65	39.20
S&W Gth	85.93	90.99
S&W Smlr Securities	178.6	189.7
Schroder Enterprise Acc	137.2	148.3
Schroder Recovery (Acc)	106.2	111.9
Schroder Smlr Cos	123.1	131.3
Schroder UK Sm Cos (Acc)	68.31	73.75
Scot Am Equity	40.27	42.99
† Scot Am Equity Strategy	47.18	50.25
Scot Am UK Smlr Cos	34.74	37.08
Scot Equit Ethical	19.96	21.08
Scot Mut UK Sp Cos Equity	155.2	165.2
Scot Mut UK Special Sits	47.30	50.32
Scot Prov Equity Gth	17.98	19.24
† Sovereign Ethical	40.49	43.07
† Sovereign UK Gth	43.97	46.90
Standard Life UK Equity Gth	39.02	41.46
Sun Alliance Equity Tst	508.8	544.2
Sun Life Of Canada UK Gth	27.75	29.86
Target UK Capital	75.31	80.82
Thornhill Capital	47.22	50.23
Thornton UK Small Cos	38.71	42.03
† TR Smlr Cos	52.06	55.38
† TR Special Opportunities	54.5	57.97
TSB British Gth	65.07	69.22
TSB Environmental Investor	40.91	43.52
TSB Select Opportunity	67.87	72.2
TSB Smlr Cos	38.18	40.81
UTAM Friars House Capital	164.9	174.7
Wardley UK Gth	130.0	139.0
Waverley Penny Share	18.09	19.24
† Wessex UK Gth	101.6	105.8
† Yorkshire Gth	40.59	43.84
Sector Average/Totals	—	—

UK EQUITY INCOME

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Prosperity Gilt	23.77	25.50	104.0	1	107.4	6
S&P Gilt & Fixed Int Inc	46.89	49.34	103.1	10	108.1	9
Schroder Fixed Interest	47.47	49.99	102.5	18	101.8	27
Schroder Gilt	110.6	116.7	103.1	10	115.9	1
Sovereign Controlled Pensions	42.96	45.82	100.4	45	87.5	44
Standard Life UK Gilt & FI	26.09	27.59	102.9	14	103.9	20
Swiss Life Fixed Interest	240.3	249.0	101.8	28	105.7	16
Target Preference	17.35	18.69	95.0	53	77.3	48
† TSB Premier Inc	42.45	44.21	100.5	43	97.4	38
Whittingdale Shr Dtd Gilt	90.07	91.34	101.4	32	110.4	3
Sector Average/Totals	—	—	101.3	55	98.1	82

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Gartmore Intl Fixed Inc	21.88	22.80	101.3	4	93.7	7
Legal & General Intl Bond	40.44	42.98	99.5	13	90.0	13
MGM International Bond	48.08	50.58	100.2	7	93.8	8
MIM Brit International Bond	41.20	43.82	100.6	6	88.2	15
Norwich International Bond	87.28	92.85	95.6	17	86.5	17
Prov Cap Worldwide Bond	49.99	53.00	101.3	4	99.7	2
S&P International Bond	122.1	129.8	102.0	1	96.0	5
Sun Alliance Worldwide Bond	43.14	45.89	98.9	11	88.4	14
Waverley Global Bond	1.0107	1.0528	99.7	12	90.2	12
Whittingdale US Govt Bond	.6355	.6437	96.6	15	92.2	9
Sector Average/Totals	—	—	100.0	17	93.1	17

CONVERTIBLES

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Aegis Capital Defender	35.66	37.81	101.7	1	88.3	11
Allied Dunbar Conv & Gilt	31.65	33.70	97.0	11	82.4	1
Baring Convertibles	38.16	40.39	98.6	6	71.8	7
BG Convertible & Gen	38.08	40.74	97.7	10	70.5	9
Brown Shipley Conv & Gov	16.47	17.81	99.2	4	70.6	8
Capital Hse Conv & Equity	35.89	37.96	98.2	8	59.6	12
CU Fixed & Conv	32.38	34.45	99.3	3	77.5	3
EFM Convertibles	18.76	19.93	98.6	6	77.5	3
Fidelity Global Convertible	16.93	18.11	98.7	5	72.1	6
Framlington Convertible	83.51	88.79	93.6	12	69.6	10
Prolific Convertible & Gilt	95.08	101.1	98.1	9	77.2	5
Property Safety First	20.27	21.56	99.8	2	79.7	2
Sector Average/Totals	—	—	98.4	12	73.1	12

INTERNATIONAL BALANCED

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Abbey Global Gth & Security	48.23	51.30	100.2	10	—	—
Cazenove Portfolio	50.31	53.61	95.2	20	79.7	15
CU Private Inv Portfolio	48.03	51.10	102.2	2	94.9	2
CU Prof Invest Portfolio	51.35	54.63	101.3	4	85.9	9
CU Progressive Inv Portfolio	50.23	53.44	101.7	3	89.7	5
GA Income Portfolio	42.11	44.84	101.1	5	85.0	10
Gartmore Global Inc & Gth	74.49	79.61	99.8	12	88.2	6
Manulife Mngd Portfolio	41.32	43.96	98.6	17	81.9	14
Marks & Spencer Inv & Port	96.78	103.5	97.4	18	82.3	12
Marlborough Mngd	47.35	50.37	99.9	11	91.6	4
Mercury Portfolio	53.23	56.72	99.3	14	87.8	8
Royal Life Intl Cautionary	45.55	48.45	102.3	1	92.8	3
Royal London Intl Inc	54.10	57.94	101.0	6	87.1	7
Scot Prov Global Inc	17.52	18.75	100.4	8	82.3	12
Templeton Global Balanced	91.14	97.49	98.7	15	78.2	16
The Master Portfolio	7187.0	7506.0	99.5	13	84.1	11
Thornton Intl High Yield	45.15	48.11	98.5	18	72.8	18
† TSB International Inc	47.88	50.93	100.4	8	—	—

INVST TRUST UNITS

INTERNATIONAL GROWTH

FUND OF FUNDS

NORTH AMERICA

JAPAN

FAR EAST INCLUDING JAPAN

FAR EAST EXCLUDING JAPAN

EUROPE

AUSTRALASIA

UK GROWTH

UK BALANCED

GILT & FIXED INTEREST

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY INC

INTERNATIONAL FXD INTEREST

COMMODITY & ENERGY

FINANCIAL & PROPERTY

MONEY MARKET

MANAGED

Yearly figures in this section are based on offer to bid prices without income re-invested.

Court orders Brent Walker to hand over £50m to GrandMet

Walker: may appeal

By JONATHAN PRYNN

GRAND Metropolitan has won the first of what may be many rounds in its feud over terms of the £685 million sale of the William Hill bookmaking chain to Brent Walker in 1989.

Brent Walker has claimed that, according to an agreed profit-related formula to determine the sale price, it paid £160 million more than was actually owed for William Hill. A final £50 million deferred payment due on September 25 was withheld by Brent Walker pending settlement of the dispute over the price through arbitration.

But in preliminary High Court proceedings yesterday, Brent Walker was ordered to pay GrandMet the £50 million it owed plus interest accrued since the due date. Brent Walker said it was considering appealing against the decision.

In a statement, Brent Walker said the court judgment "does not at all prejudice the William Hill Group Limited's claim to a substantially greater reduction in the purchase price with the addition of interest which claim remains to be determined". Brent Walker claims that William Hill's profits for the year to end September 1989 did not reach the £55 million stated by GrandMet.

The Brent Walker statement also said that GrandMet had conceded that the claim "raises significant triable issues which have still to be decided". However, it is thought that the companies still agree that the dispute over the purchase price should be settled through the less costly and formal process of arbitration.

Arthur Andersen, the auditor, has been appointed independent arbitrator and is said to be "standing by". However, a source close to GrandMet said that it could be several months before the arbitration process starts.

The £50 million payment to GrandMet became due at a time that Brent Walker could least afford an outgoing of that size. However, despite Brent Walker's heavy £1.4 billion debt burden, the company, whose chief executive is George Walker, will be able to meet the £50 million demand under the terms of the standstill agreement with its banks that was announced last month.

Under the standstill agreement, the deadline for Brent Walker's debt restructuring plan has been put back until the end of April and the company has been allowed not to make any capital repayments until the end of the year.

Brent Walker shares fell 5p to 57p on news of the court ruling. GrandMet shares were unchanged at 662p.

☐ Grand Metropolitan is finally to achieve its long-held ambition of having its shares listed on an American stock exchange, when its American Depository Shares begin trading in New York next month. The company had planned a quotation on Nasdaq, the screen-based exchange, in 1988 but had to postpone the move because of the £3.2 billion acquisition of Pillsbury. A further move to seek a listing last year, this time on the New York Big Board, was put off until the Office of Fair Trading enquiry into the Courage public house swap deal with Elders had been completed. GrandMet, which has about half its sales in America, hopes to make it easier for American investors to buy its shares and boost its American shareholding from its current level of 6 per cent.

US cuts lending rate in fight to slow recession

From SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

THE American central bank cut half a percentage point from the interest rate it charges other banks in an effort to control recession after a dismal set of employment figures for January.

The Federal Reserve Board cut the discount rate to 6 per cent, the second half-point cut in six weeks. Yesterday's move prompted leading American banks to begin lowering their prime rates within minutes to 9 per cent from 9.5 per cent.

In Europe, the dollar nearly reached all-time lows against the mark, after the cut was announced within an hour of the labour department releasing its latest unemployment statistics.

The dollar began to fall when the report showed January's jobless rate rose to 6.2 per cent from 6.1 per cent a month earlier because 232,000 Americans outside the farming sector lost their jobs. The American jobless rate is now its highest since June 1987.

Among reasons for cutting the discount rate, the Fed cited declining economic performance, weakening money supply and credit, and evidence of subsiding inflationary pressures, including falling commodity prices.

The Bush administration, which has been criticised for falling behind on economic policies during the first recession in eight years, has increased pressure on the Fed in past weeks to cut interest rates further in order to prevent the economic downturn from deepening.

By cutting the discount rate, which determines the costs of short-term loans to banks, the Fed hopes to encourage banks to do their part in boosting consumer borrowing by lowering the interest they charge on a broad range of business and customer loans.

A decline in consumer and business confidence since the Gulf conflict erupted last August are widely held responsible for American economic weakness.

For their part, the banks moved swiftly to cut their prime rates, which set interest rates on many mortgages, in order to avoid criticism that they were seeking to profit from a wide interest rate spread.

In December, when the Fed cut its discount rate to 6.5 per cent from 7 per cent, the banks did not cut their rates for several days.

J P Morgan and First National Bank of Chicago, respectively America's fifth and twelfth biggest banks, were the first to respond.

The disappointing unemployment data offered the first sign of economic activity in the first month of this year and raised fears that a recovery in the economy might take longer than many have thought.

Economists had generally predicted that non-farm payrolls would increase by 11,000, but the gain in the unemployment rate was expected.

In addition, the labour department revised the fall in non-farm jobs last December to 148,000 from 76,000.

Until now, most private economists have predicted the economy would recover this spring. Bush administration officials have suggested a recovery will come possibly as early as this quarter. Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman, however gave a warning this week that the recession could be long and deep if the Gulf war lasts more than six months.

Although he said he expected a swift rebound if the war was relatively short and oilfields were not seriously damaged, his comments were gloomier than those he made a week earlier in testimony to Congress, when he hinted the war would have little impact on the economy.

The central bank's action came one day after the Bundesbank tightened credit policy in response to inflationary pressures resulting from unification.

After Frank, Power Mouse

Wakeham reveals generator details

By MARTIN WALLER

JOHN Wakeham, the energy secretary, moved the marketing campaign for the electricity generators, National Power and PowerGen, into top gear with the publication yesterday of the pathfinder prospectus for the flotation.

"We are looking forward to the sale of the two generators. All the indications are that this is going to be another success," Mr Wakeham said.

In a remark that should prompt a wry smile from the 2,000-plus souls still waiting for their money back, he claimed: "The 12 regional electricity companies were privatised at the end of last year in what was one of the most successful privatisations this government has ever conducted."

The price is likely to be about 175p a share, with a first payment of 100p.

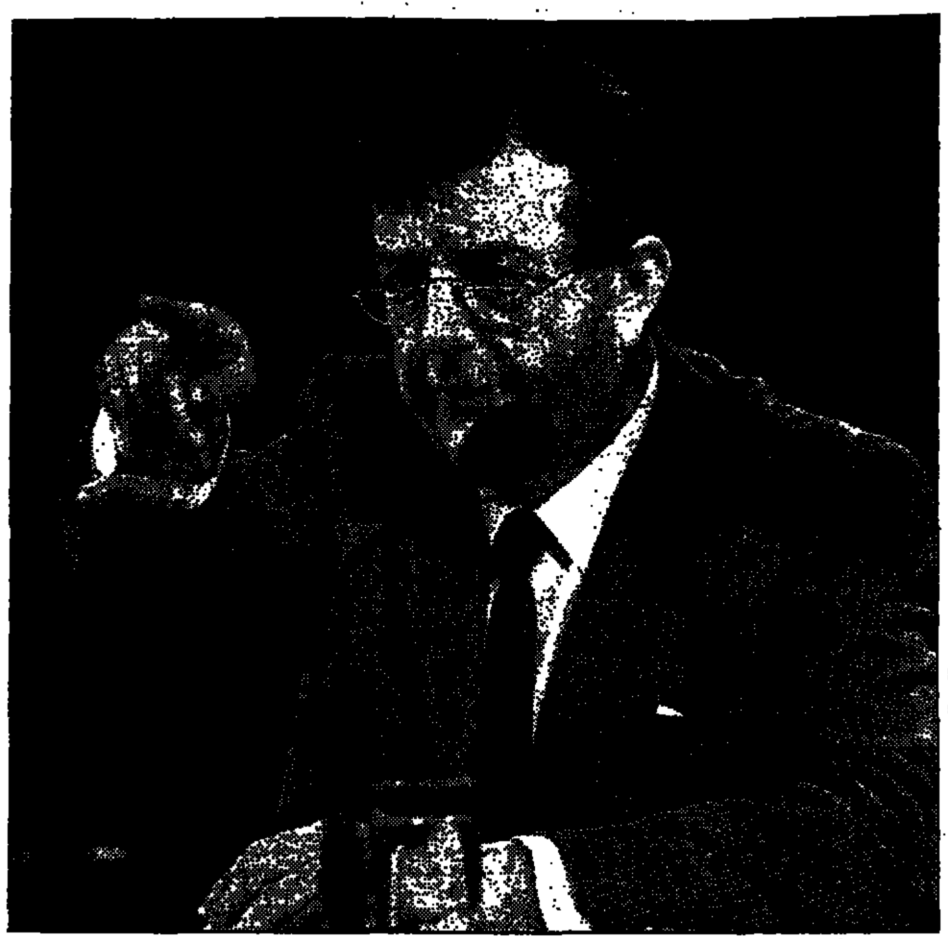
National Power is forecasting pro forma pre-tax profits to end-March of £420 million, and PowerGen predicts £264 million after £26 million of exceptional costs.

The government and its advisers have crossed one significant psychological barrier with the marketing surrounding the float. They have authorised the showing of the humorous advertisements during news bulletins, previously forbidden on grounds of public sensitivity since the war in the Gulf began.

Viewers of ITV's *News At Ten* will, therefore, see a new advertisement next week based on a made-up cartoon character, Power Mouse.

Mr Wakeham confirmed there would be a side-clause to the underwriting agreement giving City institutions the right to pull the issue if a worsening of hostilities in the Gulf led to a stock market collapse.

Clear winners from the flotation are John Baker and Ed Wallis, the two chief executives, and the other executive board members. The chief executives are currently earning about £76,000 a year, but this will be increased "to levels which are more appropriate to a private sector company," and there is a healthy flotation bonus. They can therefore expect to see their salaries rise to well in excess of £150,000.



Pointing to success: John Wakeham at the launch of the prospectus yesterday

Special deals, page 36
Health warning, page 38

POWER COUNTDOWN
Timetable for flotation of the two generators

Last day to register for incentives	Feb 15
Impact day	Feb 22
Applications in	March 6
Allocations revealed	March 11
Dealings start	March 12
Certificates posted	March 18

Tottenham facing deadline

By OUR CITY STAFF

SHAREHOLDERS of Tottenham Hotspur plc will know by Monday morning if rescue refinancing proposals are to be presented for approval by the company at its annual meeting on February 26.

Tottenham must make significant reductions in its £12 million bank debt by the end of the season if it is to prevent being wound up by its bankers. A major refinancing proposal has been expected for several months.

Such a proposal would need an extraordinary shareholders meeting for approval. If it also needed the passing of a special resolution, as a refinancing almost certainly would, shareholders would have to be given at least 21 days' notice of the meeting. This would mean investors having to receive details on Monday, with letters being posted at the weekend.

Even if Tottenham misses the Monday deadline, it is still possible that a refinancing could be approved on February 26th. Tottenham needs only to give 14 days' notice of an EGM if only a rights issue is being proposed. The board has not ruled out this option.

Lewis's debts 'more than £50m'

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

LIABILITIES at Lewis's, the department store group that went into receivership on Thursday, are likely to exceed £50 million. The main creditor is National Westminster Bank, which is owed considerably more than £13.5 million.

That figure is an overdraft facility, but NatWest made loans to the group exceeding the amount. NatWest has a charge over all the property assets of the company.

Panmure Gordon Bankers, part of NBNC, the American bank, has a charge against a Keyman Insurance policy on the life of James Fyfe, Lewis's managing director.

Allan Griffiths, one of the joint receivers from Grant Thornton's Manchester office, said he did not yet have a figure for outstanding customer deposits but said they would be substantially lower than the £15 million owed by Lowndes Queensway when it went into receivership last August.

Customers who have paid deposits should ring the helpline on 061-839-5657 and register their details.

The Lewis's stores in Manchester, Birmingham, Blackpool, Glasgow, Leeds, Hanley in Staffordshire, Leicester, Liverpool, Oxford, Preston, Stoke and Thurrock in Essex will open today and staff have been instructed to take the details of customers who have made deposits.

Customers will be contacted by the receivers next week. Mr Griffiths advises customers to telephone the helpline rather than travel to the shops.

Those customers who have paid deposits by credit card can claim from their credit card company, which should be contacted direct. Customers who have paid small deposits may receive their goods on payment of the balance.

Mr Griffiths said he did not have any information on redundancies among the 3,500 staff, who will be paid by the receivers for the time being. Mr Griffiths is optimistic about selling the stores as a going concern and has had some enquiries from potential buyers. "I'd like to sell the lot if I can," he said, "if not in one batch then perhaps in two lots."

There was speculation that the John Lewis Partnership, which has no connection with the failed group, may take the sites in Glasgow and Thurrock, where it is not represented.

Capital & Counties, the property group that owns the freehold of the Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, Oxford and Thurrock sites, has been charging £4.5 million a year in rent to Lewis's. A proportion of that sum is outstanding.

Ray Moorman, Capital & Counties' managing director, is confident that he will be able to relet or redevelop the sites.

Magnet loses £107m

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

AIREDALE Holdings, the kitchen retailer known until December as Magnet Group, made a £107 million loss for the six months to end-September.

Despite showing one of the biggest losses in the retail sector, the group appears to retain the support of its bankers, whose loans to the group were not secured against the assets of the trading company.

Sales for the six months were £119 million and the operating loss was £15 million. The interest charge, which was not paid, by agreement with the bankers, was £43.3 million and the loss before tax amounted to £58.3 million.

There was an extraordinary charge of £54 million due to the reorganisation of the business, bringing the bottom-line loss to £107 million.

There are no comparative figures due to a change in Magnet's year-end. The last reported figure was an £80 million pre-tax loss for the nine months to end-March 1990, on sales of £194 million.

Louis Sherwood, the chairman, said that in the six months to end-September 1990, sales were affected by high interest rates and a generally depressed retail market.

"Since the beginning of April the cost structure of the trading company has been significantly improved. The separation of the trade and consumer businesses has been a successful strategy. Gross margins in both divisions have improved," he said.

The trading company, Magnet Home Improvements, made operating profits in September, October and November 1990 but losses in December and January. It has net assets of more than £200 million and no net borrowings.

Magnet's bankers agreed to a restructuring a year ago when it was revealed that the management buyout team had paid £350 million too much for the business. No new money was injected but £200 million of debt repayment was deferred. Assuming the group has enough working capital to keep going and does not ask for a cash injection, the banks are likely to continue to support the group.

Bundesbank helps prop up the pound

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE Bank of England and the Bundesbank joined forces to prop up the sagging pound, very publicly selling marks for sterling.

Intervention came when the pound fell to about DM2.90, weakened by cuts in German lending rates on Thursday and by the side-effects of the sliding dollar.

At the close, sterling stood at DM2.8995, down nearly a quarter of a pfennig. Its effective floor in the exchange-rate mechanism is DM2.88.

Paul Chertkow, the Citibank currency strategist, said the pound was not under strong selling pressure, as the focus was on the dollar after the American discount rate cut. He saw support action aimed at reassuring the market that the pound was staying within it its ERM bands, after strong speculation of a base rate cut, or a realignment of the European monetary system. He expects sterling to climb back up to DM2.93 this month.

The Bank, meanwhile, announced a fresh £500 million gilt issue, only a week after a £500 million tap stock issue signaled its return to the gilt market after a long absence.

Dealing, which starts on Monday, will be in three tranches: first, £200 million of 9.75 per cent Exchequer stock 1998; second, £150 million of 9.0 per cent conversion stock 2000; and third, £150 million of 9.5 per cent conversion stock 2004.

The Bank said the issue was for market management, but gilt analysts see the rapid return to the market as a sign of mounting funding needs as recession and the Gulf war bite into government finances.

Business Editor
John Bell

THE POUND

US dollar
1.9765 (+0.0100)

German mark
2.9005 (-0.0017)

Exchange index
94.4 (+0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1694.0 (-3.9)

FT-SE 100
2165.7 (-4.6)

New York Dow Jones
2737.13 (+0.74)*

Tokyo Nikkei Avge
23156.70 (-136.44)

Closing Prices ... Page 33

Major indices and major changes Page 32

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 14%
3-month Interbank 13⅞-13¹³⁄₁₆%
3-month eligible bills 13¼-13⁷⁄₃₂%
US: Prime Rate 9%
Federal Funds 6⅞%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.98-5.97%*
30-year bonds 107⅞-107¹⁷⁄₃₂*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.9765	£: $1.9765*
£: DM2.9005	$: DM1.4675*
£: SwFr2.4736	$: SwFr1.2520*
£: FFr9.8677	$: FFr4.9940*
£: Yen259.82	$: Yen131.45*
£: Index: 94.4	$: Index: 60.2
ECU £0.708566	SDR £0.731461
£: ECU1.411301	£: SDR1.367126

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $367.95 pm-$364.50
close $366.80-367.30 (£185.00-185.50)
New York:
Comex $364.75-365.25*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Mar) ... $20.10 bbl ($20.00)
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.59	2.44
Austria Sch	21.55	20.15
Belgium Fr	62.60	58.60
Canada $	2.395	2.245
Denmark Kr	11.70	11.00
Finland Mkk	7.44	6.99
France Fr	10.29	9.64
Germany Dm	3.04	2.84
Greece Dr	331	311
Hong Kong $	15.80	15.00
Ireland Pt	1.145	1.075
Italy Lira	2285	2145
Japan Yen	274	258
Netherlands Gld	3.42	3.21
Norway Kr	11.88	11.18
Portugal Esc	267.25	251.25
South Africa Rd	5.55	4.95
Spain Pta	189.50	176.50
Sweden Kr	11.37	10.69
Switzerland Fr	2.588	2.415
Turkey Lira	6300	5650
USA $	2.06	1.94
Yugoslavia Dnr	35.00	27.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 129.9 (December)

Ex-Hungarian premier to join Eurobank

Communist turns banker

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

MIKLOS Nemeth, the last communist prime minister of Hungary, has been appointed vice-president of the London-based European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

He became Hungarian prime minister in late 1988 following the resignation of Karoly Grosz. Mr Nemeth, previously responsible for economic planning, was relatively unknown to most of his countrymen at the time. He embarked on the most radical economic reform programme launched by any communist government.

Despite the early success of the programme, Mr Nemeth and the Communist party suffered a heavy defeat at the general election last year.

In 1989, Mr Nemeth was also instrumental in allowing East German refugees to cross the border to Austria, setting off a chain of events that eventually led to the fall of the Berlin wall.

Mr Nemeth will take responsibility for administration and personnel, and will be among a number of vice-presidents of the European Bank. He was nominated formally by Jacques Attali, the European Bank's president, and his appointment was subsequently confirmed by the bank's shareholders.

New job: Miklos Nemeth

The European Bank suffered a setback when Ernest Stern, vice-president of the World Bank, refused to accept an appointment as vice-president in charge of country programmes and lending, one of the most senior positions in the bank. Instead, Mario Sarcinelli, director general of the Italian treasury since 1982, has been appointed.

The other European vice-presidential appointment is Anders Ljungh, formerly executive vice-president at Svenska Handelsbanken. He will be responsible for finance and treasury operations.

The European Bank is still searching for an American vice-president, considered obligatory as America is the bank's largest shareholder with 10 per cent. However, the most crucial jobs have already been allocated to Europeans.

Representatives of the more than 40 countries that hold shares in the European Bank met this week to endorse the appointments.

The bank is due to start operations from mid-April, by which time the the ratification process should be completed. The bank will be armed with capital of Ecu10 billion (£7.03 billion), of which Ecu3 billion will be available initially. The European Bank will act as lender and investor in private and public sector projects in central and eastern Europe.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Allid Lyon (*489)	420	82	87	–	3	8	–
	460	46	57	68	10	20	23
	500	24	35	47	26	38	42
ASDA (*119)	110	15	20	22	4	5½	8
	120	9	13	17	8	10	13
	130	4½	9	13	14	17	19
Bass (*949)	900	93	115	142	15	23	32
	950	63	86	110	32	45	50
	1000	35	57	85	63	72	75
Boots (*329)	300	38	45	52	5	11	14
	330	18	27	35	15	21	24
	360	6	13	21	36	37	38
Brit Air (*134)	120	20	23	25	4	7½	10
	130	15	17	17	8	11½	15
	140	9	12	15	18	19	23
BP (*303)	280	30	37	44	5	9	12
	300	18	26	32	12½	17½	20
	330	6½	14	20	33	36	38
Brit Steel (*119)	110	14½	17	17½	2	5	6½
	120	7	10	11½	8	10½	12
	130	3½	4½	–	13	16½	–
C & W (*473)	420	70	85	95	8	12	15
	460	40	58	70	18	23	30
	500	20	35	50	38	45	48
Com Union (*478)	420	61	68	73	6½	9½	13
	460	27	42	48	20	24	28
	500	6½	22	27	45	45	47
Courtauld (*324)	300	37	41	52	8	11½	13
	330	18	24	34	17	25	28
	360	8	13	21	41	44	45
GKN (*314)	280	45	48	50	8	11	14
	300	28	35	38	15	18	23
	330	11	21	25	30	33	38
Grand Met (*660)	600	85	107	118	8	15	18
	650	49	72	87	21	31	34
	700	23	43	59	50	58	59
ICI (*941)	800	149	152	–	9	16	–
	850	100	115	124	20	27	39
	900	59	82	93	38	45	58
Kingfisher (*382)	360	41	49	57	9	17	24
	390	20	32	39	22	30	34
	420	8	19	–	42	46	–
Ladbroke (*229)	200	37	41	47	3½	8	11
	220	24	27	35	9	15	18
	240	13	18	25	20	26	28
Land Sec (*544)	460	98	105	–	3	4	–
	500	62	71	80	5	12	18
	550	28	38	49	20	32	35
M & S (*226)	200	33	–	–	2	–	–
	220	18	23	30	7½	12	14
	240	7½	12	20	18	22	24
STC (*319)	280	–	–	–	½	½	–
	300	–	–	–	½	½	–
	330	½	–	–	12½	–	–
Sainsbury (*320)	280	51	55	–	3	6	–
	300	35	42	52	6½	11	13
	330	17	25	34	19	25	27
Shell (*431)	420	24	40	48	17	20	23
	460	9	22	26	43	47	48
	500	3	10	–	80	80	–
Smid Beech (*650)	550	110	125	–	3	6	–
	600	66	87	102	11	18	24
	650	37	55	73	30	38	43
Storehse (*105)	90	22	25	24	2½	4½	5
	100	14	18	20	8	8	10
	110	7½	9	13	10	12	15
Trafalgar (*190)	160	35	37	42	6½	10	12
	180	22	25	30	9½	20	22
	200	11	16	22	24	33	33
Ultramar (*305)	280	35	47	53	6	8	10
	300	21	35	40	11	14	18
	330	9	19	25	30	33	35
Unilever (*676)	600	90	100	–	7	9	–
	650	48	65	85	17	26	27
	700	18	38	53	42	52	57
	750	6	–	–	84	–	–
Utd Bisc (*345)	300	49	55	62	3½	5	8
	330	22	33	42	12	15	18
	360	8	14	24	28	30	33

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAA (*358)	300	60	72	75	1	3½	6
	330	32	48	53	3	9	13
	360	10	30	36	12	20	27
BAT Ind (*621)	500	122	130	143	1	4	8
	550	78	85	105	3	12	17
	600	30	52	70	10	30	36
	650	6	–	–	40	–	–
BTR (*338)	280	59	63	69	1	4	5
	300	39	44	54	1	7	11
	330	13	24	34	8	18	22
Brit Aero (*536)	500	36	52	70	4	23	27
	550	10	27	45	27	48	52
	600	2	12	–	72	85	–
Brit Tele (*292)	260	33	43	49	1	3½	6½
	280	14	28	35	4	8½	13
	300	3	15½	21	13	18	22
Cadbury (*337)	300	40	46	57	2	7	9
	330	16	25	38	8	15	20
	360	4	12	23	24	32	35
Guinness (*765)	700	82	80	105	4	15	21
	750	28	50	73	15	35	38
	800	4	27	48	50	65	70
GEC (*183)	160	23	30	33	1	3	5
	180	6	15	19	4	8	12
	200	1½	6½	9½	20	21	25
Hanson (*200)	160	41	46	46	1	1½	2½
	180	21	29	32	1	3½	6
	200	5½	14½	19½	5½	9	13
LASMO (*343)	300	47	55	67	3	9	12
	330	22	32	47	8	19	20
	360	7	17	28	25	33	35
P & O (*500)	460	46	60	69	3½	16	22
	500	18	32	43	13	34	40
	550	4	12	22	60	69	72
Pilkington (*170)	160	14	25	27	3	8	13
	180	4½	15	17	12	18	24
	200	2	7	9	32	32	37
Prudential (*206)	180	32	36	39	1	3	6
	200	13	19	24	3	9	12
	220	2	7½	14½	13	19	21
Racal (*186)	160	28	36	38	1½	6	8
	180	10	22	28	5	10	16
	200	3½	12	17	19	22	24
RTZ (*470)	390	80	85	92	1½	7	11
	420	51	55	72	3	15	19
	460	17	32	47	18	30	35
Scot & New (*365)	300	77	87	–	1½	2	–
	330	47	60	67	2	5	9
	360	20	38	45	6	12	19
	390	4	19	27	23	27	35
Tesco (*244)	220	24	30	35	2	4½	6
	240	7	15	22	5½	12	14
	260	1	7	13	21	22	25
Thames Wtr (*294)	240	55	64	69	1	1½	4
	260	36	45	50	2	4½	8
	280	18	31	35	4	9	16
Wtr Package (*22938)	2300	660	–	–	10	–	–
	2350	610	–	–	10	–	–
	2400	560	–	–	10	–	–
Lucas (*135)	120	19	23	27	2	5½	6
	130	11	15	22	4	10	11
	140	4½	11	16	8	14	17
Hillsdown (*187)	180	8	14	18	19	25	27
	200	4	7	12	35	39	42
	220	1½	4	8	53	55	57
Lonrho (*197)	180	23	31	34	4	6	9
	200	8	17	22	10	13	18
	220	4	11	14	27	27	29
Midland (*165)	140	29	32	35	4	6	10
	160	17	20	23	13	17	22
	180	7	10	14	30	32	35
	200	3	4½	7	50	52	52
Reuter (*761)	650	120	–	167	11	–	37
	700	80	–	134	24	–	54
	750	52	–	107	45	–	75
R-Royce (*147)	140	13½	16	20	4½	8	10
	160	4	7	11	16	21	22
	180	2	3	6	35	36	39
Sears (*84)	70	14	17	17	1½	2½	4
	80	7	9	11	4	6½	8
	90	2	5	6	10	13	14
THF (*225)	220	16	21	26	7	15	16
	240	6	11½	18	19	26	29
	260	3	7	11	38	43	44
Thorn EMI (*649)	550	108	128	–	2½	4	–
	600	64	84	90	6	13	24
	650	29	50	57	24	30	45
	700	10	27	34	57	62	75
TSB (*142)	120	23	26	28	1	2	3½
	130	14	19	21	2½	6	8
	140	5	11	14	6½	10	13
Vaal Reefs (*$54)	50	8½	12	14	4½	8	8
	60	3½	7½	9	10	13	14
Wellcome (*489)	390	90	104	–	3	7	–
	420	60	80	95	8	13	18
	460	32	52	70	19	27	32

	Series	Feb	Apr	Jul	Feb	Apr	Jul
Fisons (*377)	330	47	52	65	1	4½	6½
	360	20	29	43	5	12	16
	390	4½	13½	26	20	27	31

	Series	Nov	Jan	Mar	Nov	Jan	Mar
Abbey Nat (*247)	200	49	49	52	1	1½	2½
	220	29	31	36	2½	5	7½
	240	13	18	24	9	13	15
Amstrad (*66)	50	17	20	23	1	2	2½
	60	8½	13	16	3½	5	5½
	70	4	6½	10	7½	8½	10
Barclays (*364)	300	73	73	–	3	5	–
	330	45	47	65	8	13	17
	360	18	33	38	22	26	33
	390	6½	18	26	43	47	50
Blue Circ (*227)	200	28	30	38	3½	10	12
	220	14	18	25	11	18	22
	240	6½	11	16	23	31	34
Brit Gas (*236)	200	38	46	48	2	3	5
	220	19	29	31	4	8	8
	240	7½	16	18	11	14	19
Dixons (*148)	130	21	26	25	3	5½	8
	140	13	20	22	5	8	11
	160	4	11	13	17	19	22
Glaxo (*868)	750	149	172	–	3	8	–
	800	100	130	165	8	15	23
	850	58	92	119	20	30	40
	900	30	62	86	44	53	64
Hawker (*452)	390	75	85	90	3	13	14
	420	50	57	70	10	22	27
	460	28	32	45	25	45	48

	Series	Mar	May	Aug	Mar	May	Aug
Eastn Elc (*162)	130	35	38	42	1½	2½	4
	140	26	30	33	2	3½	7
	160	10	18	20	6	8	14
Southrn Elc (*172)	140	34	37	–	1½	3½	–
	160	15	21	–	5	8	–
	180	5	10	–	15	17	–
Elc Package (*£1710)	1550	185	220	–	25	35	–
	1600	150	180	–	35	50	–
	1650	105	145	–	60	90	–

FT-SE INDEX (*2216.4)

	2000	2050	2100	2150	2200	2250
Calls						
Feb	186	137	96	60	32	16
Mar	200	160	128	94	61	38
Apr	227	189	151	115	86	60
May	255	215	175	140	110	82
Jun	243	–	170	–	120	–
Puts						
Feb	6½	11	20	34	60	98
Mar	16	23	37	53	77	113
Apr	25	32	46	67	85	113
May	30	40	52	68	98	130
Jun	38	–	62	–	107	–

February 1, 1991   Total: 22159 Calls 13126 Puts 9033   FT-SE: Calls 2806 Puts 3766
*Underlying security price.

Dealers in legal move against Nissan

NISSAN UK, the independent network of car dealers, has started legal action seeking damages from Nissan, Japan's second biggest vehicle maker.

Octav Botnar, chairman of Nissan UK, yesterday announced that NUK had issued proceedings against Nissan Motor Manufacturing over the Japanese decision to end his firm's exclusive rights to distribute Nissan cars in Britain.

NUK is seeking a declaration that the termination notice is invalid and damages to take into account the "very considerable investment" of £250 million undertaken by the 380 British Nissan dealers. It is unlikely to seek damages for the full £250 million but NUK lawyers are expected to push for a settlement of tens of millions of pounds.

Clyde sells

Clyde Petroleum is selling onshore licence interests in the east Midlands and the Isle of Wight to Blackland Oil for a 15 per cent share of future profits. French onshore assets are being sold, subject to pre-emption rights being waived, to Petrole St Honore for Fr7 million (£707,000) and a 15 per cent share of future profits.

Fittings falls

Wholesale Fittings, which distributes electrical products, gave warning of "extremely difficult" trading conditions. The interim dividend is 3.23p a share on pre-tax profits of £2.50 million (£2.56 million) for the six months to end-October. Earnings were 11.5p (11.8p) a share.

Wintrust steady

Wintrust, the independent London merchant bank, reported almost unchanged profits of £2.71 million pre-tax for the six months to end-September against £2.66 million. Earnings were 19.01p (17.25p) a share. The interim dividend is 3p (2.8p).

Bank closure

National Westminster Bank has decided to close its branch in Brussels, at a cost of 110 jobs, unless a buyer is found before the year-end. The branch no longer fits its European expansion plans.

Receiver named

Price Waterhouse has been named administrative receiver of RKF Group, the troubled mini-conglomerate whose shares were suspended at 5p on Wednesday.

News Corp signs debt rescheduling deal

By Our Financial Staff

THE News Corporation has signed an agreement with all its 150 banks and other lenders to reschedule US$7.6 billion of debt for up to three years and to borrow a further $600 million to be repaid in one year.

The deal, thrashed out after three months of negotiations, removes the liquidity threat *that has overhung the group* since last summer, but imposes tight conditions.

Under the terms of the deal, News Corp is committed to reducing its overall debt by $2.4 billion over the three-year period. But management has freedom to decide how cash to repay debt will be split between asset sales, earnings and extra equity.

Shares in News International, the British subsidiary, which pay the sterling equivalent of News Corp's dividend, recovered a further 9p to 116p. Over the 12 *months to mid-January*, when agreement on the loan plan became likely, they had fallen from 338p to a low of 88p.

Rupert Murdoch, chief executive of the international media group, which owns *The Times*, welcomed the agreement, which was put together by Citibank of New York and Samuel Montagu, part of Midland Bank. He said it would enable managers to concentrate on running the business.

"Heavy capital expenditures in all our newspapers and expansion of our tele*vision and film activities* last year coincided with an extreme tightening of the credit markets, causing a liquidity crunch," he said. "These arrangements represent a major strengthening of the company's financial situation."

Peter Stehrenberger, finance director of News International, said: "We have been given a period of time to turn this company back into a healthy, profitable group, complete our capital spending programme and then get back to normal."

Under the agreement, News Corp must reduce its peak borrowings by $800 million by February 1992, including repayment of the short-term loan and some bonds. Reductions of $400 million are required in each of the four following six month periods.

From the depressed profits for 1989-90, News Corp retained earnings and paid dividends totalling about US$220 million.

Under the agreement, the 10 Australian cents per share dividend cannot be raised until the borrowings are repaid. There is to be an alternative dividend in shares which Mr Murdoch's family, who speak for about 45 per cent of News Corp, will take.

Mr Murdoch had previously made it clear that News Corp was considering selling up to $2 billion of non-core assets over three years. Core assets have been defined as the worldwide newspaper, television, film production and book publishing interests.

The group also has a 50 per cent interest in the Ansett airline and aircraft leasing businesses in Australia as well as specialised printing, digital mapping, American racing guides and other businesses linked to its main media interests. Several non-core interests have been sold in recent months.

News Corp will also review loss-makers. Management stressed, however, that it had no intention of selling its stake in BSkyB, the television network, or any of its British newspapers.

News Corp must pay a further 1 percentage point over money market interest rates on its borrowings. Lenders will also be paid an undisclosed additional fee for the debt restructuring and for committing themselves to the $600 million bridging loan.

The agreement does not *cover borrowings of Harper* Collins, the book subsidiary that agreed a separate financing package before being brought fully into News Corp last year.

Dan Air may take merger route to ensure survival

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

DAN Air may be merged with another British airline in an attempt to guarantee the survival of both companies.

David James, chairman of Dan Air's parent, Davies and Newman, told shareholders yesterday that a merger was one of three options being considered by the board.

He emphasised that no formal negotiations were taking place but that he had had discussions with "almost everyone in the industry".

"The substantial strengths of Dan Air might offer the means by which to achieve a merger with another similar activity to create a larger and more cost-effective airline to fulfill a wider role within the UK civil aviation industry."

Although he refused to be drawn on the likely partners, the airlines that would appear to fit Dan Air's long-term aims are British Midland or Air Europe. It is understood that preliminary talks have been held with Harry Goodman, chairman of Air Europe's parent, ILG, and Michael Bishop, chairman of BMA.

The other options are to develop and expand the company using its own resources or to sell it as a going concern.

The first would, however, require "a substantial injection of new funds," either through a rights issue or the introduction of new equity investors. A straight sale is virtually impossible in the forseeable future as the aviation industry struggles to survive its worst recession. However, Mr James said the interest that

Three options to expand its horizons: David James

had been shown in the company might revive "once market conditions improve".

The object of the meeting was to gain approval for the sale of Dan Air's engineering base to a Danish company for £27.5 million and to change the company's articles to enable a total borrowing limit of *£200 million to be established*.

The £200 million does not represent bank borrowings, however, which were raised to a limit of £80 million in January rather than the £68 million agreed in November, "to enable the company to maintain orderly trading throughout the whole of the 1990-1 winter season".

So far the group has drawn on almost £60 million of these facilities. The company is cutting costs by reducing scheduled services, especially be*tween Gatwick and Paris, and* co-operating with Air Europe on the route, bringing forward the closure of the Belfast route and leasing out two further Boeing 727 aircraft.

Braithwaite price hit by warning and resignation

By Martin Barrow

SHARES in Braithwaite collapsed from 145p to 84p after the industrial services company issued a profits warning and announced the departure of Andrew Fitton, the chief executive.

Mr Fitton, responsible for aggressive expansion by acquisition in the late Eighties, left "to pursue his private and other business interests", the company said. Stuart Ross, his right-hand man throughout that period, stays as finance director.

The company said pre-tax profits for the final six months to end-March were expected to be significantly lower than last time. Analysts estimate that full-year profits will be less than £2.75 million before tax.

Although this is higher than a reported £2.3 million for the year to March 1990, those results included exceptional charges of £1.4 million. About 90 per cent of profits come from the Andrews Sykes subsidiary, which manufactures and hires portable heating and drying equipment for the construction industry.

Profitability peaked at £6.53 million in the year to end-March 1989. Despite disposals, gearing is still more than 100 per cent.

Braithwaite's shares, which peaked at 370p in 1989, will be affected by the uncertainty that now surrounds Mr Fitton's interest in the company. He holds no disclosable stake but has an indirect interest in a near-27 per cent stake held by European Fire Protection and Suiker, the privately owned investment companies.

UK bad debt hurts bank in Canada

ROYAL Trustco, Canada's largest savings bank, had pre-tax losses of C$134 million (£57 million) last year due to massive bad debts at its British operations.

The bank had to make a C$163 million provision against bad debts in Europe. Of the provisions, C$140 million were British loans.

The bank also suffered a C$84 million loss on its shares in American savings and loans companies and charged C$30 *million for restructuring its* British and Swiss operations.

Anthony Flynn, the chief financial officer, denied the bank had any intention of reducing its British presence.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Securities regulator closes T C Coombs

THE Securities Association has ordered TC Coombs, a London stockbroker, to cease investment business under the Financial Services Act due to a shortfall in its capital. Association members must have enough capital to cover three months' overheads and provide against the risks in its own stock holdings and counterparty risks.

The order will only be lifted if the firm can raise more capital, although it can appeal to a disciplinary tribunal. Only two firms closed by similar association orders have ever reopened. Coombs' client funds are thought to be unaffected. Coombs' problems appear to stem from the failed £7.5 million share issue it organised for Norton, the motorcycle manufacturer. The firm acted as lead underwriter, and had to invest £1.5 million in Norton after one of the issue's sub-underwriters failed to come up with the funds.

Profit up 18% at Aerospace

AEROSPACE Engineering, the specialist engineering and electrical products group, increased interim pre-tax profit 18 per cent to £1.38 million for the six months to end-October on turnover of £18.17 million (£13.76 million). John Davis, the chairman, noted the possibility of "current external factors" affecting short-term results. As a result, the interim dividend remains at 1.56p.

West sustains higher loss

WEST Industries, the engineering and construction company bidding £1.95 million for Audit & General, has announced pre-tax losses of £693,000 for the six months to end-September (£80,000 loss). Turnover was almost unchanged at £11.6 million. For the group as a whole, the benefits of cost reduction should flow through in the second half, the company said. There is no interim dividend (nil).

Colorgen in the red

COLORGEN, the USM-quoted computerised colour systems company based in Massachusetts, has returned to losses in the first half but predicts an improved result for the year as a whole. Colorgen made an $18,000 pre-tax profit for the year to last June, after losses in the two previous years.

In the first six months of this year, the company made a pre-tax loss of $332,000 against a $589,000 loss for the same period in 1989. Sales were up more than $1 million to $2.38 million. The company said losses were due to extra staff brought in to handle higher shipping levels expected over the next six months, increased research and development costs

Brooke Tool cuts payout

BROOKE Tool Engineering has given warning of tough trading in the first quarter of this year. The total dividend is cut from 1.9p a share to 1.225p, with a 0.5p final, on pre-tax profits of £1.3 million (£1.53 million) in the year to end-September. Earnings were 2.2p (3.1p). Interest charges of £1.09 million (£379,000) offset a rise in operating profits to £2.39 million (£1.91 million).

Marconi wins satellite deal

MARCONI Space Systems, a joint venture between GEC and Matra of France, has secured what it says is the biggest contract ever won by a UK space company. The deal, split with GE Astro-Space of America and worth £160 million, is to build communications payloads for Inmarsat, the 63-nation body providing satellite communications for air, sea and land users.

Telford shares halted

SHARES in Telford Group, the information technology company, were suspended at 4p when the company announced a financial reconstruction, an acquisition, new management and a name change. The company is raising £300,000 through an issue of shares at 14p to acquire Auriga Investments and British Thornton Industries, its subsidiary.

The share capital is being written down and reconsolidated to eliminate the accumulated deficit on the profit and loss account. Telford — to be called British Thornton Holdings — lost £908,000 pre-tax (£434,000 loss) in the year to end-April 1990. In the six months to end-October 1990, it made pre-tax losses of £413,000 (£9,000 profit). Again there is no dividend.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 94.4 (day's range 94.3-94.4).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Feb 1	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New Yrk	1.9650-1.9770	1.9760-1.9770	1.07-1.06pr	3.28-3.24pr
Montrl	2.2814-2.2967	2.2912-2.2953	0.54-0.48pr	1.13-1.06pr
Amstrdm	3.2644-3.2815	3.2644-3.2680	1⅛-1⅛pr	3⅝-3⅜pr
Brussels	59.48-59.96	59.48-59.71	20-17pr	57-50pr
Copnhgn	11.1331-11.2106	11.1331-11.1585	3⅜-3pr	9-8⅝pr
Dublin	1.0922-1.0980	1.0926-1.0936	28-21pr	79-63pr
Frankft	2.8968-2.9116	2.8968-2.9022	1⅛-1pr	3⅜-3pr
Lisbon	254.38-257.58	254.38-255.50	11pr-17ds	14-65ds
Madrid	181.30-182.68	181.30-181.99	par-7ds	17-30ds
Milan	2178.54-2190.94	2178.54-2183.60	4-2pr	8-7pr
Oslo	11.3286-11.4035	11.3286-11.3521	2⅝-2⅜pr	7-6⅝pr
Paris	9.8602-9.8976	9.8602-9.8751	3-2⅝pr	8⅝-8⅜pr
Stckhlm	10.8581-10.9063	10.8581-10.8834	1-⅝pr	2-1⅝pr
Tokyo	258.43-260.01	259.65-259.96	1⅜-1⅛pr	3⅝-3⅜pr
Vienna	20.35-20.48	20.35-20.38	7⅞-7⅝pr	21⅞-19⅞pr
Zurich	2.4720-2.4785	2.4720-2.4752	1⅛-1pr	2⅛-2pr

Source: Extel *Premium = pr. Discount = ds.*

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 14 Finance Hse 14

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 14 Low 12½ Week fixed: 13⅝

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buying: 2 mth 13 9/16; 3 mth 12 13/16. Selling: 2 mth 13 1/16; 3 mth: 12 11/16.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	13 21/32-13⅝	13 1/32-13 19/32	13⅜-13 7/32	12⅞-12 9/16	
Trade Bills (Dis):	14 9/32	14⅛	13⅞	13⅜	
Interbank:	14-13 15/16	14-13⅞	13⅞-13 13/16	13⅝-13½	12⅞-12⅝
(Overnight: open 13⅞, close 13⅞.					
Local Authority Deps:	13 15/16	n/a	13 15/16	13⅝	12 13/16
Sterling CDs:	14-13 15/16	13 15/16-13⅞	13⅞-13 13/16	13⅝-13½	12⅞-12 13/16
Dollar CDs:	6.75-6.70	6.80-6.75	6.73-6.68	6.73-6.68	6.92-6.87
Building Society CDs:	14 1/16-13 15/16	14-13⅞	13⅞-13¾	13⅝-13½	12 13/16-12¾

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6⅝-6½	6⅝-6 9/16	6 13/16-6⅝	6⅝-6 9/16	6⅝-6½
Deutschemark:	9-8⅞	9-8⅞	9⅛-9	9 5/16-9 3/16	8⅛-7⅞
French Franc:	10⅛-9⅞	10 1/16-9⅞	10 3/16-1/16	10⅜-10⅛	10-9
Swiss Franc:	8⅞-8⅝	8¾-8⅝	8 5/16-8 1/16	8 5/16-8 1/16	8-7
Yen:	8⅛-7⅞	8⅛-8	8⅛-8⅛	8 1/16-7 15/16	7⅛-6⅞

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS *(Baird & Co)*

Bullion: Open $366.60-367.30 Close: $365.75-366.25 High: $369.00-369.50 Low: $364.50-365.00 Krugerrand: $365.00-367.00 (£184.50-185.50)

Sovereigns: Old $89.00-90.00 (£44.50-46.00) New $85.00-87.00 (£43.50-45.00)

Platinum: $393.50 (£199.00) Silver: $3.85 (£1.945) Palladium: $85.75 (£43.50)

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	18335.6-18463.2
Australia dollar	2.5249-2.5295
Bahrain dinar	n/a
Brazil cruzeiro *	434.214-435.026
Cyprus pound	0.835-0.845
Finland marka	7.02-7.06
Greece drachma	306.65-311.85
Hong Kong dollar	15.3880-15.3901
India rupee	36.42-36.82
Kuwait dinar KD	n/a
Malaysia ringgit	5.3173-5.3240
Mexico peso	5780-5880
New Zealand dollar	3.2908-3.2980
Saudi Arabia riyal	n/a
Singapore dollar	3.4040-3.4117
S Africa rand (fin)	6.4542-6.5648
S Africa rand (com)	5.0033-5.0119
U A E dirham	n/a

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.8075-1.8090
Singapore	1.7240-1.7270
Malaysia	2.6930-2.6950
Australia	1.2787-1.2804
Canada	1.1612-1.1622
Sweden	5.5130-5.5180
Norway	5.7600-5.7650
Denmark	5.6640-5.6690
W Germany	1.4700-1.4707
Switzerland	1.2525-1.2535
Netherlands	1.6595-1.6605
France	4.9950-5.0000
Japan	131.55-131.65
Italy	1105.5-1106.5
Belgium (Com)	30.30-30.35
Hong Kong	7.7935-7.7955
Portugal	129.70-130.00
Spain	92.00-92.20
Austria	10.33-10.35

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £891 m allotted: £250m; Bids: £96.790% received: 28%; Last week: £96.785% received: 94%; Avge rate: £12.8363% last wk £12.8106%; Next week: £250m.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	*Open*	*High*	*Low*	*Close*	*Volume*
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 30296	Mar 91	2198.0	2208.0	2187.0	2198.0	5498
	Jun 91	2238.0	2238.0	2226.0	2234.0	373
	Sep 91				2269.0	0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 129849	Mar 91	86.59	86.72	86.53	86.70	41184
	Jun 91	87.81	87.89	87.80	87.87	16178
	Sep 91	88.58	88.65	88.48	88.65	3493
Three Month Eurodollar Previous open interest: 38464	Mar 91	92.96	93.24	92.94	93.20	4514
	Jun 91	93.01	93.30	93.01	93.26	2469
Three Month Euro DM Previous open interest: 75559	Mar 91	90.63	90.72	90.55	90.72	18826
	Jun 91	90.79	90.85	90.73	90.84	6689
US Treasury Bond Previous open interest: 7384	Mar 91	96-10	97-18	96-09	97-08	3450
	Jun 91				96-23	0
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 58747	Mar 91	92-12	92-27	92-04	92-19	24851
	Jun 91	93-02	93-02	93-02	93-06	45
Japanese Govt Bond Previous open interest: 725	Mar 91	96.20	96.90	96.15	96.42	194
	Jun 91	96.50	96.50	96.30	96.77	5
German Govt Bond Previous open interest: 84366	Mar 91	84.05	84.29	83.91	84.22	44448
	Jun 91	84.27	84.39	84.10	84.37	2924
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 1533	Mar 91	89.58	89.70	89.56	89.72	298
	Jun 91	89.92	90.01	89.92	90.06	28

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings p Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

COMMODITIES

LONDON FOX

COCOA		COFFEE		SUGAR (FOB) C Czarnikow	
Mar	610-608	Mar	520-519	Mar	199.6-99.4
May	652-651	May	531-530	May	201.6-01.6
Jul	679-678	Jul	548-547	Aug	207.0-06.8
Sep	708-707	Sep	562-558	Oct	207.0-06.8
Dec	741-740	Nov	579-578	Dec	208.2-06.8
Mar	769-768	Jan	597-595	Mar	206.2-06.0
May	791-788	Mar	615-612		
	Vol: 5837		Vol: 2449		Vol: 1933

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT Close (£/t)		BARLEY Close (£/t)		HI-PRO SOYA Close (£/t)	
Mar	122.40	Mar	114.05	Feb	109.0-08.0
May	126.20	May	116.20	Apr	110.0-09.5
Jun	128.15	Sep	102.60	Jun	109.0-08.5
Sep	105.60	Nov	106.20	Aug	111.0-10.5
Nov	108.75	Jan	109.50	Oct	113.5-12.5
Vol	391	Vol	122	Vol	100

LONDON POTATO FUTURES Volume: 31

Feb (£/tonne)	Open: 87.5	Close: unq
Apr	121.8	121.3
May	141.8	142.0

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 1

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	81.37	140.38	107.71
(+/-)	+1.20	+0.86	+1.39
Eng/Wales:	81.37	140.09	107.16
(+/-)	+1.20	-0.04	+1.68
(%)	-11.4	-22.0	-23.8
Scotland:	n/a	142.21	109.98
(+/-)	n/a	+4.33	-0.10
(%)	n/a	-65.8	-6.7

* *Estimated dead carcase weight*

LONDON MEAT FUTURES

Live Pig (/kg)

	Feb	Mar	Apr
Open:	unq	unq	unq
Close:	104.5	104.8	104.5

Volume: 91

LONDON OIL REPORTS (ICIS-LOR) - London 6.00pm: Despite the Gulf situation, the oil market continued to languish at virtually unchanged levels.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	20.75	
Brent 15 day (Mar)	20.10	
Brent 15 day (Apr)	19.45	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	21.45	
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	20.60	

PRODUCTS (Buy/sell $/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas 1.5	246 (+2)	251 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	260 (+5)	265 (+5)
Non EEC 1H Feb	260 (+7)	265 (+10)
Non EEC 1H Mar	221 (+5)	223 (+5)
3.5 Fuel Oil	84 (-6)	86 (-6)
Naphtha	232 (+7)	237 (+7)

IPE FUTURES

GAS OIL

Feb	231.25-31.00	Jun	175.00 SLR
Mar	200.00-99.50	Jul	175.00 SLR
Apr	181.75-81.00	Aug	unq
May	177.00 SLR		Vol: 4567

BRENT

Feb Apr
Mar Vol:

BIFFEX

GNI Freight Futures Dry Cargo ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Feb 91	1490	1486	1490
Mar 91	1476	1465	1471
Apr 91	1367	1360	1368
Jul 91	1072	1060	1060

Vol: 184 lots Open interest: 4503
Dry cargo index 1482 +8

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1213.0-1214.0	1223.5-1224.5	724275
Lead (£/tonne)	296.00-296.50	305.00-306.00	80750
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1140.0-1142.0	1140.0-1142.0	186800
Tin ($/tonne)	5530.0-5535.0	5630.0-5640.0	10496
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1467.0-1468.0	1500.0-1501.0	441250
Nickel ($/tonne)	8580.0-8581.0	8575.0-8580.0	11004

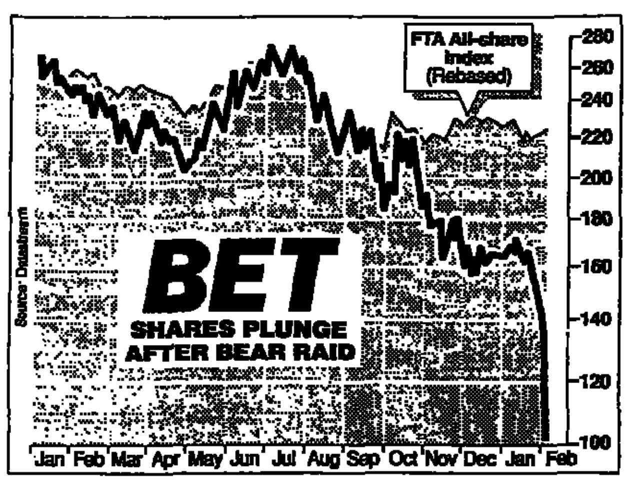
FOX MGMI INDEX (5pm prices)

	Bid	Offer
Feb	152.90	153.80
Mar	153.10	154.00
Apr	153.00	154.00

Vol: 190

STOCK MARKET

Bear raids leave BET 35p lower



BET, the industrial services conglomerate, became the latest target of a series of bear raids. The group's shares more than halved to 65p at one point, although they staged a partial recovery after a statement from the company saying it was not aware of any justification for the fall. BET closed 35p lower at 100p, in heavy volume of 53 million shares.

The highly geared group was affected by a variety of market rumours about its financial position, ranging from the possibility of an impending rights issue, rumoured to be in the form of a one-for-one at 50p, cancelled brokers' meetings, sales and leasebacks on properties at very high yields and a cut in the group's dividend.

Nicholas Wills, BET's chief executive, blamed the fall on "a series of totally ridiculous rumours". He said the group's level of gearing has been reduced to about 100 per cent, and that the debt reduction continues. He added that this year's net cash inflow from operations is projected to be "significantly higher".

BET, which has been the subject of several recent downgradings, said that although total group pre-tax profits are currently expected to be below market expectations, the board sees no reason at present to expect a reduction in total dividend for the current year. City expectations range from about £250 million to £270 million for the year to end-March, against £322 million last time.

The company recently sold its Anglian Windows double-glazing subsidiary to management for £82 million in an attempt to reduce gearing.

Thames TV, in which BET holds a 28 per cent stake, fell 8p to 266p in sympathy.

Hillsdown was another casualty of bear raids, with the shares falling 12p to 168p, as 17 million shares changed hands. Hillsdown initially lost 26p amid rumours, later denied, that Marks and Spencer was pulling out of furniture retailing, where Hillsdown is a major supplier. There were some lumpy lines of stock on offer, raising fears that the Kuwait Investment Office stake may be on the move.

London opened lower after an overnight fall in Tokyo and early losses on Wall Street, despite news of prime rate cuts. There was also concern about escalation of the Gulf war and higher American unemployment figures.

Even so, selective support enabled the FT-SE 100 index to stage a recovery. It closed 4.6 lower at 2,165.7. The FT index of 30 shares was 3.9 down at 1,694. Turnover managed to reach a respectable 540.8 million shares.

Gilts ended the session around £⅛ easier at the long end of the market.

Early enthusiasm over speculation that Cable and Wireless may bid for Racal was dampened after James Capel downgraded the Racal twins. County NatWest trimmed it pre-tax profits forecast from £280 million to £267 million for the year to end-March, and now Capel is looking for £245 million for the same period. **Racal Telecom** firmed 2p to 287p and **Racal Electronics** 3½p to 185½p. Cable and Wireless was unchanged at 273p.

Most of the Water companies showed further gains, despite early profit taking. **Anglian** lost 5p to 291p, but **North West** rose 8p to 297p, **Severn Trent** 2p to 278p, **Southern** 6p to 278p, **South West** 2p to 308p, **Wessex** 3p to 321p and **Yorkshire** 2p to 300p. The package advanced by £20 to £2,938.

PHILIP PANGALOS

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Standard Chart	223½p (+11p)
Rank Org	613½p (+16p)
Fisons	377p (+9p)
News Int	116p (+9p)
Highland Distl	244p (+9p)
ICI	941p (+8p)
Ratners Group	127½p (+9p)
WH Smith 'A'	351p (+11p)
Micro Focus	800p (+20p)
Antofagesta	310p (+17p)
Eurotunnel Units	465p (+10p)

FALLS:

Aus New Z Banking	129p (−8p)
Pearson	651p (−9p)
Siebe	294p (−16p)
Braithwaite	82½p (−62p)
Trafalgar House	189½p (−10p)
Austin Reed	370p (−8p)
BET	100p (−35p)
Hawker Siddeley	450½p (−10p)
Pilkington	168p (−11p)

Closing prices

MAJOR INDICES

New York:	
Dow Jones	2737.13 (+0.74)*
S&P Composite	343.73 (−0.20)*
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	23156.70 (−136.44)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	3223.49 (−19.81)
FT-SE Eurotrack	956.49 (−0.85)
Sydney: AO	1302.5 (−19.0)
Frankfurt: DAX	1426.51 (+6.43)
Paris: CAC	416.29 (−2.89)
Zurich: SKA Gen	475.3 (+3.2)
London:	
FT.–A All-Share	1035.41 (−0.83)
FT.– "500"	1140.03 (same)
FT. Gold Mines	136.6 (+0.4)
FT. Fixed interest	93.02 (+1.25)
FT. Govt Secs	84.51 (+0.08)
Bargains	26047
SEAQ Volume	540.8m
USM (Datastream)	112.26 (−0.41)

*Denotes latest trading price

FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey Nat	3,295	Cadbury	2,841	L&G	1,722	Royal Bnk	1,317
Alld-Lyons	587	CU	1,149	Lloyds	1,902	Royal Ins	3,068
Anglian	474	Courtaulds	2,135	Lonrho	1,649	Sainsbury	2,429
ASDA	5,094	Dalgety	14,225	Lucas	1,694	Scot & N	1,134
AB Foods	122	Enterprise	1,015	M&S	10,673	Sears	3,098
Argyll	797	Eurotunnel	621	Maxwell Cm	247	Severn Trnt	1,697
BAA	326	Fisons*	2,910	MEPC	1,175	Shell	1,916
BET	53,150	Gen Acc	929	Midland	2,872	Smith & N	4,959
BTR	2,387	GEC	6,476	Nat West	6,572	SK Beech	1,801
BAT	1,811	Glaxo	1,424	N W Water	973	Sun Allnce	1,849
Barclays	4,010	Grand Met	2,883	P&O	1,437	Tarmac	1,682
Bass	413	GUS 'A'	194	Pearson	234	Tate Lyle	1,982
BICC	450	GRE	1,077	Pilkington	1,806	TSB	5,114
Bk Scotlnd	1,800	GKN	617	Prudential	5,884	Tesco	3,380
Blue Circle	3,693	Guinness	1,168	Racal	5,274	Thames Wtr	1,904
BOC	1,003	Hanson 'A'	314	Rk Hovis	44,492	Thorn EMI	348
Boots	2,134	Hanson	16,862	Rank	891	Trafalgar	2,899
Br Aero	2,386	H & C	1,878	R&C	71	THF	2,122
Br Airways	2,836	Hawker	309	Redland	1,621	Ultramar	1,139
Br Gas	10,376	Hillsdown	3,786	Reed	3,496	Unilever	1,298
Br Petrol	7,713	ICI	4,027	Reuters	3,863	United Bis	3,032
Br Steel	8,074	Kingfisher	2,505	RMC Gp	683	Wellcome	398
Br Telecm	7,841	Lasmo	1,457	RTZ	1,798	Whitbrd	414
Burmah Cst	466	Ladbroke	3,749	R-Royce	3,886	Wgn Teape	5,751
C&W	2,911	Land Sec	2,720	Rothmn 'B'	289	Willis Cor	1,368

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Atlantis Resources	37
Aberforth Smlr (100p)	97
Brabant Res (155p)	137
CMW Group	25
Castle Cairn (50p)	30
ECU Tst (50p)	39 −½
EFM Java Tst (50p)	35
Eidos (100p)	63
Faber Prest	145
Invergordan (135p)	146 +2
Levercrest (108p)	90 −2
MMEC	3½
MMI	19
Malaysia Capital	£6⅝
Midland Radio	94
Paramount	9½
Pelican Gp	21
Proteus Intl	85
Seton Healthcare	151
St James Place	61
Smaller IT	61
Stand Platform	159 +6
Tr Euro Gwth	81
Trio Inv Tst	43
Utd Energy	1¼
Utd Uniform	92
Unichem	116
Wig Tpe App	184 −1

● *See main prices page for Elec shares*

RIGHTS ISSUES

For & Col N/P	¼

(Issue price in brackets).

WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily ch'ge (£)	Yearly ch'ge (£)	Daily ch'ge (lc)*	Yearly ch'ge (lc)*	Daily ch'ge (US$)	Yearly ch'ge (US$)
The World	579.4	−0.7	1.0	−0.1	1.9	−0.1	3.4
(free)	110.7	−0.7	0.9	−0.2	1.8	−0.1	3.3
EAFE	988.8	−0.5	0.8	−0.3	0.5	0.1	3.2
(free)	101.5	−0.5	0.6	−0.4	0.2	0.1	3.0
Europe	603.5	0.1	1.4	−0.1	1.5	0.7	3.8
(free)	130.3	0.0	1.1	−0.4	1.0	0.6	3.5
Nth America	427.3	−0.9	1.4	−0.3	3.8	−0.3	3.8
Nordic	1152.9	0.7	6.0	0.5	6.2	1.3	8.5
(free)	186.8	0.4	4.4	0.2	4.6	1.0	6.9
Pacific	2164.1	−0.9	0.3	−0.5	−0.4	−0.3	2.7
Far East	3133.7	−0.9	0.2	−0.4	−0.5	−0.3	2.6
Australia	233.1	−2.0	1.5	−1.3	2.6	−1.4	3.9
Austria	1241.9	0.6	−5.1	0.1	−4.5	1.2	−2.8
Belgium	702.8	0.2	−0.5	−0.1	−0.4	0.8	1.9
Canada	414.1	−0.6	−2.6	−0.2	−0.2	0.0	−0.3
Denmark	1094.7	0.5	1.5	0.1	1.6	1.1	3.9
Finland	62.4	0.1	−3.1	0.1	−2.2	0.7	−0.8
(free)	87.4	−0.2	1.6	−0.2	2.5	0.4	4.0
France	585.6	0.3	2.1	−0.1	2.5	0.8	4.6
Germany	694.9	0.7	1.5	0.3	1.9	1.3	3.9
Hong Kong	2008.9	−0.8	4.4	−0.2	6.8	−0.2	6.9
Italy	242.8	−0.3	−4.9	−0.7	−4.8	0.3	−2.6
Japan	3282.5	−0.9	0.1	−0.4	−0.8	−0.3	2.5
Netherlands	725.0	0.6	−1.8	0.2	−1.4	1.2	0.5
New Zealand	53.5	−0.8	4.0	−0.4	4.4	−0.2	6.5
Norway	1033.7	0.4	−7.2	0.0	−7.2	1.0	−5.0
(free)	181.0	0.4	−6.9	0.0	−6.8	1.0	−4.6
Sing/Malay	1472.8	−0.2	1.6	0.3	3.6	0.3	4.0
Spain	171.7	−0.1	4.6	−0.7	3.1	0.5	7.1
Sweden	1304.0	0.9	14.6	0.8	14.7	1.5	17.3
(free)	189.2	0.4	14.0	0.3	14.2	1.0	16.8
Switzerland	739.9	1.3	4.9	1.0	5.3	1.9	7.4
(free)	111.9	1.4	4.1	1.1	4.6	2.0	6.6
UK	645.9	−0.6	1.1	−0.6	1.1	0.0	3.5
USA	388.2	−0.9	1.8	−0.3	4.2	−0.3	4.2

(lc) Local currency.* *Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.*

WALL STREET

Early fall for Dow as investors take profits

New York

BLUE chips were under pressure in early trade as investors took some profits. But analysts said the market's recent upward momentum and the Federal Reserve's half-point cut in the discount rate would likely lift share prices later in the day.

"The unemployment report hit the Fed over the head," said Don Hays, a market strategist at Wheat First Securities, referring to a 232,000 decline in non-farm payrolls in January. Economists had expected an increase of 11,000.

The Dow Jones industrial average was off 19.56 points at 2,717.83.

☐ **Tokyo** — Shares closed lower after a hectic session drove the Nikkei index briefly below psychological support at 23,000 in the afternoon. Brokers said arbitrageur sales and concern over Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev triggered the decline.

"The Soviet concerns hit a chord with the market today because it was thin and nervous," said Paul Migliorato, senior broker at Jardine Fleming Securities. The index closed down 136.44 points at 23,156.7.

☐ **Frankfurt** — Share prices shrugged off the Bundesbank's decision to raise interest rates. The Dax index ended up 6.43 points at 1,426.51 after reversing an opening slide.

"There was some modest buying from foreigners and institutions and almost no selling," said one trader. He said the rate rise was seen as more of an adjustment to market conditions than a tightening.

☐ **Hong Kong** stocks finished mixed in quiet trade dominated by weekend profit-taking. The Hang Seng index fell 19.81 points to 3,223.49.

☐ **Sydney** — Worrying economic statistics and profit-taking slashed morning gains. The All-Ordinaries index closed 7.5 points higher at 1,321.5.

	Feb 1 midday	Jan 31 close		Feb 1 midday	Jan 31 close		Feb 1 midday	Jan 31 close
			Enron	51	51½	Oryx Energy	33¾	
Abbott Lab	42¾	43¾	Entergy	22¾	23	Pac Ent	42	
Aetna Life	42¾	42¾	Ethyl	26¾	27¼	Pac Gas Elec	25	
Ahmanson	15¾	15	Exxon	50¾	51½	Pac Telesis	41¾	
Air Prods	58¾	59	Fed NMA	40¾	39¾	Paccar	42¾	
Albertsons	37¾	38¾	Fedrl Expre	43	42¾	Pacificorp	21¾	
Alcan Al	20¾	21	Ftl Norstar	10¾	11	Pall	41¾	
Alco Stand	29¾	29¾	Fluor	41½	41½	Paramount	43¾	
Allied Signal	28¾	29	FMC	35	34¾	Parker-Hanfn	26¾	
Alumin CA	63¾	64½	Ford Motor	28¾	28	Penney	51	
Am Brands	39¾	40¾	FPL	29	28¾	Pennzoil	65¾	
Am Cyanmd	54½	54½	Fst Chicago	21½	21½	Pepsico	26¾	
Am EPC	27¾	27½	Fst Intrste	30¾	29¾	Pfizer	89¾	
Am General	33¾	32¾	Fst Union	17¾	17¾	Philps Pet	25¾	
Am Home	50¾	50¾	Gannett	40¾	40¾	Philps Elec	18¾	
Am Intl	82¾	82¾	Gen Cinema	21	21	Philip Morris	56¾	
Am Medical	4¾	4¾	Gen Elec	63¾	63½	Phelps Dodge	60	
Am Stores	62¾	62¾	Gen Mills	47¾	47¾	Pitney Bow	43¾	
Amax	22¾	22¾	Gen Motors	36¾	36¾	Plcr Dome	13¾	
Amer Hess	44¾	44¾	Gen RE	90	90½	PNC Fncl	33¾	
Ameritech	65	65	Gen Signal	40¾	40½	Pnhdle Estn	11¾	
Amex	22¾	23	Genentech	25¾	25¾	Polaroid	25¾	
Amoco	48¾	49¾	Genuine Pts	37¾	37¾	PPG Inds	49¾	
AMP	51½	50½	Georgia-Pac	42¾	42½	Prctr Gmble	79¾	
AMR	54½	54½	Gillette	65¾	65¾	Price	43¾	
Anheuser-B	44¾	44¾	Goodrich	43	43	Primerica	26¾	
Apple Comp	56¾	55½	Goodyear	20½	20½	Pub Service	26¾	
Archer-Dan	20¾	20¾	Grace	27¾	26¾	Quaker Oats	51¾	
Arkla	18¾	18	Greyhound	27¾	27¾	Ralston Pur	97¾	
Armstrong	27	27¾	Gt Atlantic	47¾	47¾	Raychem	25¾	
Asarco	28¾	28¾	Gt Western	13¾	13¾	Raytheon	74½	
Ashland Oil	29¾	30	GTE	29¾	29¾	Reebok	15¾	
AT&T	32¾	32¾	Halliburtn	45¾	46¾	Roadway	48¾	
Atlan Richfld	119¾	119¾	Heinz	33¾	33¾	Rockwell	26	
Auto DP	59¾	59¾	Hercules	36¾	37	Rohm Haas	38¾	
Avery Intl	21½	21½	Hershey Fd	39¾	39¾	Royal Dutch	74¾	
Avon Prod	33¾	33¾	Hewlett Pkd	38	38¾	Rubbermaid	42¾	
Baltimore	26¾	26¾	Hilton Htl	37½	36¾	Rynlds Mtl	61¾	
Banc One	30¾	29¾	Home Depot	42¾	43¾	Safeco	37¾	
Bankamerica	29¾	29¾	Homestake	15¾	15¾	Salomon	22¾	
Bard	19¾	19¾	Honeywell	48¾	46¾	Sant Fe Pac	8¾	
Barnett Bt	22¾	21½	Houston Ind	36¾	36¾	Sara Lee	33¾	
Bausch Lmb	67	67¾	Hsehld Intl	35¾	37¾	Schecorp	37¾	
Baxter Intl	29¾	29¾	Humana	44¾	45¾	Schlumbgr	57¾	
Bec Dickin	70¾	70¾	IBM	126¾	126¾	Schrg-Plgh	44	
Bell Atlan	48	48¾	IF&F	76¾	77	Scott Papr	42¾	
Bellsouth	52¾	52¾	Illinois TW	54¾	53¾	Seagram	88¾	
Btr Hughes	24¾	24¾	Inco	28¾	28¾	Sears Rbk	28¾	
Black Decker	10¾	10¾	Ingsol-Rand	42¾	43¾	Secrty Pac	21¾	
Block	46¾	47	Inland Steel	22¾	22¾	Shrwn-Wlms	39¾	
Bnkrs Tst NY	42¾	42¾	Intel	46¾	45¾	Skyline	17	
Boeing	46¾	49¾	Intl Paper	58	58¾	Snap-on Tle	30¾	
Boise Casc	27	27	ITT	52¾	51¾	Southern	26½	
Borden	32	31½	James River	28	28¾	St Paul	64¾	
Brist-Myer	68¾	69	Johnsn Jhsn	75¾	76¾	Stanley Wk	31¾	
Browng-Fer	25¾	24¾	K Mart	31¾	31	Stone Cntr	14	
Burl Nth	30¾	31	Kellogg	77¾	78	Sun Co	29¾	
CAI	8¾	8¾	Kerr-McGee	41½	42¾	Suntst Bk	24½	
Campbell Sp	62¾	60¾	Kimbly-Clrk	84¾	84¾	Super Valu	24¾	
Cap Cities	465	454	Knght-Rddr	49¾	49¾	SW Bell	52¾	
Capital HC	42¾	42¾	Lilly	76¾	78	Syntex	64¾	
Carolina	44¾	44¾	Limited	22	22¾	Sysco	34¾	
Caterpillar	49¾	49¾	Ln Brdcstg	65	65¾	Tandem	13¾	
CBS	164	164¾	Lincoln Nat	44¾	44¾	Tandy	31¾	
Central SW	44¾	44	Litton Ind	61¾	62¾	Tele-comm	15¾	
Champion	27¾	27¾	Lockheed	37¾	38	Teledyne	20¾	
Chase Man	12¾	11¾	Louis-Pac	30¾	30¾	Temple-In	35¾	
Chem Bnkg	13¾	13¾	Manu Hano	22¾	22¾	Tenneco	48¾	
Chevron	70¾	71	Marriott	13	10¾	Texaco	57¾	
Chrysler	11¾	12¾	Marsh Mclen	72¾	72	Texas Inst	37¾	
Chubb	60	60¾	Martin Mar	49¾	50¾	Texas Util	38¾	
Cigna	44¾	44¾	Masco	19¾	19¾	Textron	26¾	
Citicorp	13	12¾	May Dept	45¾	46	Time Wrnr	95¾	
Ctbme Liz	37¾	37¾	Maytag	11¾	11¾	Times Mirr	30¾	
Clorox	37¾	37¾	MCA	n/a	n/a	Timken	25	
Cmwlth Edis	34¾	35	McDnl Doug	38¾	37¾	Torchmark	51¾	
CNA Fincl	75¾	77¾	McDonalds	28¾	28¾	Toys R Us	27¾	
Coastal	29	28¾	McGraw-Hill	56¾	55¾	Transam	33	
Coca-Cola	47¾	48¾	MCI Com	24¾	24¾	Travelers	18¾	
Colgate-Pal	70¾	70	Mead	28	28¾	Tribune	43¾	
Columb Gas	44¾	44¾	Medtronic	91	92	TRW	39	
Compaq	69¾	70	Melville	45	45¾	Tyco Lab	41	
Conagra	39¾	38¾	Merck	92¾	91¾	UAL	128¾	
Cons Edis	23¾	23¾	Merll Lynch	24¾	24¾	Un Camp	38¾	
Cons NG	42¾	42¾	MMM	84¾	84¾	Un Carbide	18¾	
Cons Rail	46¾	46¾	Mobil	58¾	58¾	Un Pacific	74¾	
Cooper Ind	45¾	46¾	Monsanto	53	52¾	Unilever	85¾	
Corning	51½	51½	Moore	23¾	22¾	Unisys	2¾	
CPC Intl	76¾	77¾	Morgan	45¾	45¾	Unocal	24¾	
Crown Cork	68¾	63¾	Motorola	54¾	54¾	Upjohn	37¾	
CSX	35¾	35¾	Nat Medical	44¾	44¾	US West	38	
Dana	30¾	31	Nat Semi	5¾	5¾	Usair Gp	20¾	
Dayton-Hud	65¾	65¾	Nat Service	25	25¾	USF&G	8¾	
Deere	53¾	54¾	Navistar	3¾	3¾	UST	40¾	
Delta Air	67¾	68¾	NCNB	28¾	28¾	USX	29¾	
Deluxe	35¾	35¾	NCR	87¾	87¾	Utd Tech	47¾	
Detroit Ed	28¾	28¾	NED Bncp	38¾	38¾	Utd Telcm	24¾	
Digital Eq	69¾	71¾	Newmnt Min	35¾	35¾	VF	22¾	
Dillard	90	90¾	Niagr Mhwk	13¾	13¾	Wal-Mart	33	
Disney	110¾	108¾	Nike	47¾	44¾	Walgreen	56¾	
Dominion	45¾	45¾	NL Indstrs	9¾	10¾	Waste Mgmt	39¾	
Donnelley	41	43	Nordstorm	27	27¾	Wells Fargo	61¾	
Dover	39¾	38¾	Norflk Sthn	45¾	45¾	Westg Elec	28¾	
Dow Chem	51½	52¾	Norwest	22	22¾	Weyerhsr	22¾	
Dow Jones	28¾	27¾	Nthn St Pwr	39¾	39¾	Whirlpool	25¾	
Dresser Ind	23	23	Nthn Telcm	27¾	27¾	Whitman	20½	
Du Pont	35¾	36¾	NY Times	22¾	22¾	Winn-Dixie	35¾	
Duke Pwr	27¾	27¾	Nynex	70¾	70¾	Woolworth	32	
Dun Bradst	47¾	47¾	Occid Petrl	18¾	18¾	Wrigley	54¾	
East Kodak	42¾	42¾	Ohio Edi	17	17¾	Wrner-Lamb	70¾	
Eaton	54¾	54¾						
Emerson El	42¾	43	Oracle Sys	8¾	9	Xerox	49	

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
January 21	February 1	April 25	May 7

Call options were taken out on: 1/2/91 ADT, Barratt Devs, BET, Securiguard, Tuik Oil, Tuskar Res.

Puts: BET, Borland, Reuters.

Put & Call: BET.

UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
AETNA LIFE INSURANCE				
401, St John Street, London EC1V 4QE				
071-837 6494				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	14.70	15.48	+0.02	..
Bear	14.31	15.07	+0.41	..
Owl	14.32	15.08	+0.73	..
Bull	12.47	13.13	+0.57	..
Stag	12.09	12.73	+0.47	..
Gilt Edged	13.5		..	..
Deposit	13.13		+0.02	..
Pensions				
Squirrel	18.45	19.43	+0.05	..
Bear	17.83	18.77	+0.32	..
Owl	18.24	19.20	+0.94	..
Bull	15.03	15.83	+0.71	..
Stag	14.21	14.96	+0.57	..
Gilt Edged	15.68		..	..
Deposit	15.68		+0.04	..
Exempt App Mixed	165.6	168.8	+6.32	..
ABBEY LIFE				
80, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL				
0202 292373				
Property Fund Inc	270.2	284.5	..	..
Do Accum	439.3	462.5	..	..
Equity Fund Income	112.7	118.7	+3.3	..
Do Accum	134.4	141.5	+3.8	..
Selective Fund	330.6	348.1	+4.3	..
Money Fund	300.4	316.3	+0.6	..
Prop Fd Ser 4	347.5	365.8	..	..
Equity Ser 4	136.0	143.2	+3.8	..
Man Ser 4	410.2	431.8	+7.6	..
Conv Ser 4	266.5	280.6	+0.5	..
Money Ser 4	266.3	280.4	+0.5	..
Fixed Int Fd Ser 4	249.8	262.6	−0.2	..
American Ser 4	268.9	281.0	+5.0	..
High Inc Ser 4	432.8	455.8	+7.1	..
Indexed Inv Ser 4	153.7	161.8	..	..
Japan Ser 4	251.7	265.0	+0.7	..
ALBANY LIFE				
3, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar				
0707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	£10.20	10.73	+0.30	..
European Fd Accum	230.8	242.9	+2.8	..
Fixed Int Acc	379.1	399.0	−0.1	..
Gtd Money Fd Acc	272.6	286.9	+0.4	..
Intl Man Fd Acc	363.5	382.6	+4.2	..
Int Fxd Int Fd Acc	220.8	232.3	+0.1	..
Japan Fund	218.6	230.1	+2.8	..
Nth American Fd Acc	187.8	197.6	+4.8	..
Prop Fd Acc	334.1	351.6	+0.4	..
Multiple Inv Acc	686.6	722.7	+13.0	..
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE				
Swindon SN1 1EL				
0793-514514				
Fixed Int Dep Accum	305.0	321.1	+0.4	..
Equity Accum	859.4	904.7	+21.7	..
Property Accum	502.1	528.6	+0.1	..
Far East Accum	166.6	175.4	+2.5	..
Managed Capital	369.8	389.3	+6.3	..
Do Accum	684.1	720.2	+15.0	..
Overseas Accum	592.3	623.5	+14.0	..
Gilt Edged Accum	340.5	358.5	+1.3	..
Amer Equity Accum	432.4	455.2	+5.1	..
Amer Man Accum	196.8	206.2	+3.2	..
Amer Prop Accum	112.2	118.2	+1.7	..
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
10 Queens Terrace Aberdeen AB9 1QJ				
Freephone 0800 833 580				
International	187.5	197.4	+0.34	..
High Income	189.2	199.2	..	..
Income & Growth	265.2	279.2	+2.68	..
Basic Resource	115.5	121.6	+1.32	..
American	162.5	171.1	+1.28	..
Japan & General	365.3	384.5	+2.03	..
Special Situations	215.9	227.2	+1.80	..
BARCLAYS LIFE				
252, Romford Rd, London E7 9JB				
081-534 5544				
Equity Accum	526.3	554.0	+10.7	..
Do Initial	397.7	418.7	+8.1	..
Gilt Edged Accum	262.9	276.8	+0.3	..
Do Initial	200.4	211.0	+0.2	..
International Accum	236.2	248.7	+5.0	..
Do Initial	178.9	188.4	+3.8	..
Managed Accum	337.1	354.9	+5.7	..
Do Initial	255.8	269.3	+4.3	..
Money Accum	237.7	250.3	+0.4	..
Do Initial	175.1	184.4	+0.2	..
Property Accum	272.9	287.3	..	..
Do Initial	205.4	216.3	−0.1	..
America Accum	149.6	157.5	+2.3	..
Do Initial	115.2	121.3	+1.7	..
Australia Accum	117.8	124.0	+2.8	..
Do Initial	91.0	95.8	+2.2	..
Financial Accum	202.7	213.4	+4.8	..
Do Initial	156.1	164.4	+3.6	..
500 Accum	258.9	272.5	+3.0	..
Do Initial	196.7	207.1	+2.4	..
Japan &Gen Acc 2	259.1	272.8	+2.8	..
Do Initial 2	195.7	206.0	+2.3	..
Income Accum	324.3	341.4	+7.3	..
Do Initial	248.6	261.9	+5.7	..
Leisure Accum	162.0	170.6	+4.8	..
Special Sits Accum	126.6	133.3	+2.4	..
Univ Tech Accum	87.4	92.1	+2.2	..
Do Initial	69.0	72.7	+1.8	..
BLACK HORSE LIFE				
Mountbatten House Chatham Kent ME4 4JF				
0634 834000				
The Managed Fund	502.31		+7.37	..
Income Fund	498.6	525.9	+5.88	..
Extra Income Fund	455.4	479.4	+13.93	..
Worldwide Grwth Fd	304.1	320.1	+3.84	..
Balanced Fund	416.5	438.4	+5.53	..
Smllr Co's & Re Fd	386.5	406.9	−0.60	..
Int Technology Fund	285.4	300.4	+6.24	..
N Amer & Gen Fund	224.7	236.6	+3.71	..
Energy Int Fund	109.6	115.4	+0.22	..
Pacific Basin Fund	229.1	241.1	+2.89	..
German Growth Fd	149.7	157.6	+0.54	..
Japan Growth Fd	126.5	133.1	+0.43	..
The UK Gth Fd	135.9	143.1	+1.33	..
Cont Euro Gth	76.18	80.19	+0.85	..
Property Fund	303.8	319.8	+0.99	..
Fixed Interest Fund	227.8	239.8	+0.29	..
Cash Fund	233.4	245.7	+0.32	..
Managed Inv Fund	313.2	329.7	+4.79	..
Nth Amer Recov	123.6	130.1	+6.11	..
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Growth	264.2	278.1	+1.71	..
Managed Income	125.4	132.0	..	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
CANADA LIFE				
2-6, High St, Potters Bar, Herts				
P Bar 51122				
Equity Growth	171.5		−5.7	..
Managed	212.8	223.8	+2.7	..
Property	175.5	184.8	+0.4	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	168.9	177.8	−0.4	..
Index-Linked	147.2	155.0	+0.4	..
Equity	231.2	243.4	+4.8	..
Cash	181.7	191.3	+0.4	..
Midland Bk UT	221.2	232.8	+2.8	..
Midland Bk Int	222.7	234.5	+3.1	..
CANNON ASSURANCE				
1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB				
081-902 8876				
Equity Units	274.45		+1.79	..
Property Units	226.51		..	..
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£41.23	43.63	+0.54	..
2nd Equity Accum	418.9	441.2	+8.6	..
2nd High Inc/Accum	398.8	419.9	+8.3	..
2nd Property Accum	259.3	275.0	..	..
2nd Managed 2 Acc	133.8	141.6	+0.8	..
2nd Managed Acc	298.5	316.8	+3.6	..
2nd Managed 4 Acc	136.9	143.6	+2.2	..
2nd Deposit Accum	232.8	245.1	+0.3	..
2nd Gilt Accum	216.9	228.5	+0.8	..
2nd Amer Accum	295.9	313.1	+11.2	..
2nd Intl Money Ac	196.2	207.6	−0.1	..
2nd Index Accum	141.6	149.6	−0.3	..
2nd Far East Accum	253.2	270.1	−0.5	..
2nd Global Accum	88.6	93.6	+2.5	..
2nd Euro Accum	106.4	112.6	+0.6	..
2nd Japan Accum	145.2	153.7	−1.8	..
2nd Heritage Acc	71.9	76.1	..	..
2nd Intl Curr Bond	106.8	113.0	+0.3	..
2nd Strat Opp Acc	80.3	85.0	+1.0	..
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE				
Sentry House, 500, Avebury Blvd, Cntl Milton Keynes MK9 2LA				
0908-606101				
Property Fund	211.5	222.7	−4.7	..
Money Fund	308.0	324.3	+0.6	..
Managed Fund	386.7	407.1	−0.3	..
Equity Fund	211.4	222.6	−2.2	..
Fixed Interest Fund	159.4	167.8	+0.2	..
Far East Fund	296.2	311.8	+6.5	..
Nth Amer Fund	84.1	88.6	+2.1	..
Nat Resources Fund	196.3	206.6	−0.3	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL				
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH				
0272 290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	179.2	188.7	+4.0	..
Ruby	91.0	95.8	+1.9	..
Emerald	109.7	115.5	+0.1	..
Equity	211.6	222.8	+6.6	..
Property	183.2	192.9	−0.1	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	147.1	154.9	−0.3	..
Indexed Secs	127.1	133.8	..	..
Cash	161.6	169.8	+0.2	..
Nth American	113.3	119.3	+3.9	..
Far East	156.0	163.2	+3.2	..
International	129.6	136.5	+2.9	..
Special Sits	175.4	184.7	+2.1	..
Intl Income	188.8	198.7	+3.9	..
American Inc	102.5	107.9	+2.2	..
European	198.8	209.1	+4.4	..
Japanese	91.9	96.8	+1.1	..
SE Asia	148.0	155.8	+2.8	..
Home Inv WP Reg	120.5	126.9	+0.1	..
Home Inv WP Spec	120.5	126.9	+0.1	..
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	184.1	193.8	+3.3	..
Equity	217.5	229.0	+5.9	..
Property	157.5	165.8	−0.3	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	163.5	172.2	−0.1	..
Index Linked	136.3	143.5	−0.1	..
Cash	187.9	197.8	+0.4	..
Nth American	131.4	138.4	+2.4	..
Far East Acc	174.3	183.5	+1.9	..
International Acc	158.5	166.9	+2.5	..
Special Sits	233.7	246.0	+4.1	..
European Flex	244.6	257.5	+4.5	..
COLONIAL MUTUAL				
24 Ludgate Hill, London EC4P 4BD				
071-248 9861				
CML U AssKey	167.08		..	..
CML U AssPacemkr	220.58		..	..
CML U AssCash	170.1	179.1	+0.31	..
CML U AssEquity	353.3	371.9	+3.91	..
CML U AssFI	240.8	253.5	−0.72	..
CML U AssMngd	263.7	277.6	+2.14	..
CML U AssProp	272.3	286.6	+0.29	..
CML(Pen)Cash Cap	180.7	190.2	..	..
CML(Pen)Cash Inv	231.1	243.3	..	..
CML(Pen)Eqty Cap	955.6	1005.9	..	..
CML(Pen)Eqty Inv	£12.21	12.86	..	..
CML(Pen)Fixd Cap	270.0	284.2	..	..
CML(Pen)Fixd Inv	346.3	363.4	..	..
CML(Pen)Indx Cap	170.6	179.6	..	..
CML(Pen)Indx Inv	218.4	229.9	..	..
CML(Pen)Man Cap	394.9	415.6	..	..
CML(Pen)Man Inv	504.9	531.5	..	..
COMMERCIAL UNION				
St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3				
071-283 7500				
Var Ann Accum (5)	395.78		+5.43	..
Var Ann (5)	72.2		+0.6	..
Prime- Managed	245.1	258.0	+3.6	..
Prime- UK Equity	293.3	308.8	+3.9	..
Prime- Int Equity	166.1	174.9	+3.6	..
Prime- Property	191.8	202.1	−2.2	..
Prime- Fixed Interest	165.7	174.5	+1.5	..
Prime- Index-Linked	131.0	137.9	+0.1	..
Prime- Cash	167.9	176.8	..	..
CONFEDERATION LIFE				
50 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1HE				
071-242 0282				
Managed Fund	723.2	761.2	−19.3	..
Equity Fund	£10.01	10.54	−0.38	..
PIP Fund	230.768		−0.86	..
CROWN FINANCIAL				
Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW				
04862 5033				
Life Managed Acc	372.9	392.5	+6.3	..
Life Fixed Int Accum	263.4	277.2	−0.5	..
Life Equity Accum	606.9	632.8	+9.0	..
Life Money Accum	246.1	259.0	+0.2	..
Life Inv Trust Accum	447.9	471.3	+8.2	..
Life Intl Accum	308.9	325.1	+8.2	..
Life High Inc Accum	450.9	474.6	+7.3	..
Life Property Accum	216.5	227.8	+0.1	..
Crown Brit Inv A	806.7	850.0	..	..
Brawin Equity	432.4	455.1	..	..
DBS Managed	218.5	230.0	..	..
Growth Accum	281.0	295.7	..	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
CRUSADER INSURANCE				
Reigate Surrey RH2 8BL				
07372 42424				
Managed perf	97.3	103.0	+1.1	..
Performance Plus	93.1	98.5	+1.0	..
With Profit Perf	132.4	140.1	..	..
UK Opportunity	121.2	128.3	+2.4	..
Euro Opportunity	118.0	124.9	+0.9	..
North Amer Opp	70.7	74.8	−0.7	..
Far East Opp	101.3	107.2	+1.8	..
Gth Prop Series 1	172.6	181.7	..	..
Gth Prop Series 2	150.3	159.0	+0.1	..
Fixed Int	121.9	129.0	+0.5	..
Cash	129.6	137.1	+0.2	..
Managed Pens	387.8	405.9	..	..
Overseas	99.3	105.1	+0.1	..
EAGLE STAR INSURANCE				
Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ				
0242 221311				
Secure Fund	143.1	150.7	+0.3	..
Blue Chip Fund	157.6	165.9	+2.4	..
Do Series 2	99.0	104.3	+1.6	..
Adventurous Fund	128.6	135.4	+1.6	..
Do Series 2	93.7	98.7	+1.2	..
Performance Fund	151.4	159.4	+2.1	..
Do Series 2	95.2	100.3	+1.3	..
UK Pref Fxd Int	100.4	105.7	+0.2	..
UK Equity Fund	91.3	96.2	+2.4	..
Property Fund	97.4	102.6	−0.1	..
Envmnmtl Opps	91.3	96.2	+2.8	..
Euro Fund	89.3	94.1	+0.6	..
North Amer Fund	99.5	104.8	+1.2	..
Oriental Ops	98.0	103.2	+2.0	..
Japanese Fund	91.7	96.6	+0.8	..
Bt & West Life	..		..	..
Bt & West Pen	99.0	104.3	+0.2	..
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND				
1 Threadneedle St, London EC2				
01-588 1212				
Eagle/Midland Units	173.1	178.4	+5.3	5.10
EQUITY & LAW				
Amersham Road, High Wycombe				
0494 463463				
Reserve	..		..	..
Balced (Mod)	450.0	473.6	+12.3	..
Opportunity	93.7	98.6	+0.5	..
UK Equities	606.1	637.9	+18.6	..
Higher Inc	612.3	644.5	+17.7	..
North Amer	211.9	223.0	+13.2	..
Far East	312.9	329.3	+6.2	..
Europe	250.8	263.9	+4.8	..
Intl	316.9	333.5	+8.7	..
Property	443.7	467.0	−0.7	..
Fixed Int	293.6	309.0	+0.2	..
Ind-Lnkd Sec	138.0	145.2	+0.1	..
G'teed Depst	236.9	249.3	+0.5	..
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT				
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH				
0722 413366				
Managed (Mixed)	191.9	202.0	+2.8	..
UK Equity	248.1	261.2	+4.6	..
Stewardship	207.8	218.8	+1.8	..
Overseas Equity	164.3	173.0	+2.3	..
North American	86.4	91.0	+2.3	..
Pacific Basin	85.3	89.8	+1.1	..
European	124.1	130.7	+2.9	..
Property	193.7	203.9	−0.7	..
Fixed Interest	147.3	155.1	+0.2	..
Index Linked	122.6	129.1	−0.1	..
Cash	161.6	170.1	+0.3	..
GT MANAGEMENT				
8th Floor 8 Devonshire Square London EC2M 4YJ				
071-283 2575				
GT Plan Bond Fund	182.6	192.3	..	..
GT Plan High Yield	274.7	289.2	..	..
GT Plan Far East	219.0	230.6	+1.9	..
GT Plan North Amer	149.7	157.6	..	..
GT Plan UK & GE	369.3	388.8	..	..
GT Plan Worldwide	251.6	264.9	+3.9	..
GENERAL ACCIDENT				
2, Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR				
0904 628982				
Managed	133.8	140.8	+1.7	..
Unitised with Profit				
UK Equity	176.3	185.5	+2.5	..
Fixed Int	143.3	150.7	−0.1	..
Index-Linked	124.6	131.1	−0.2	..
Cash Deposit	144.0	151.5	+0.3	..
Property	163.9	172.4	−0.9	..
International	117.3	123.4	+2.0	..
American	97.7	102.8	+1.8	..
Japan	162.9	171.3	+4.8	..
Japan Smlr Co's	167.6	176.3	+6.4	..
European	119.8	126.0	+1.5	..
Pacific Fund	117.0	123.0	+3.5	..
Conv Life	95.6	100.7	+1.5	..
GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE				
General Portfolio Hse, Harlow Essex CM20 2EW				
0992 31971				
Portfolio Fd Acc	465.1		+9.3	..
Do Init	287.6		+5.7	..
Do Inv a	465.0	489.6	+9.6	..
UK Equity	250.7	264.0	+4.8	..
Smaller Cos	143.7	151.3	−1.0	..
Gilt Plus	150.8	158.8	+0.1	..
Do 88	142.7	150.3	..	..
Managed	198.3	208.8	+4.1	..
Inter Man	172.7	181.9	+4.1	..
GRESHAM UNIT				
2-6, Prince of Wales Road, Bournemouth				
0202 752000				
Managed Bond	470.0	495.3	+10.2	..
Money Fund	259.7	273.3	+0.5	..
Equity Fund	390.6	411.0	+3.0	..
Fixed Interest Fund	198.3	209.0	+0.4	..
Property Fund	307.2	323.7	−8.1	..
Gresham Framlington				
American & General	262.4	276.5	+28.8	..
Income	455.5	480.1	+23.1	..
International Grwth	518.9	596.0	+17.6	..
Capital Fund	367.0	385.7	+9.4	..
Recovery Fund	304.3	320.7	+6.5	..
Japan & General	201.3	212.1	+1.2	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE				
Royal Exchange London EC3				
071-283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	665.2	713.7	−4.4	..
Managed Initial	310.6	327.2	+6.3	..
Do Accum	406.5	427.9	+8.3	..
Equity Initial	467.6	492.2	+9.2	..
Do Accum	611.6	643.8	+12.3	..
Fixed Int Initial	309.1	325.3	+1.4	..
Do Accum	404.2	425.5	+2.0	..
Intl Initial	288.2	303.4	+6.2	..
Do Accum	377.0	396.8	+8.3	..
Nth Amer Initial	103.1	108.5	+2.8	..
Do Accum	122.7	129.2	+3.3	..
Pacific Initial	156.6	164.5	+2.3	..
Do Accum	184.3	194.0	+2.8	..
Property Initial	179.8	189.2	−2.2	..
Do Accum	235.1	247.5	−2.5	..
Index-Linked Initial	130.4	137.3	..	..
Do Accum	155.2	163.4	+0.1	..
Deposit Initial	172.6	181.7	+0.3	..
Do Accum	225.7	237.6	+0.4	..
Euro Initial	67.8	71.4	+1.3	..
Do Accum	74.6	78.5	+1.4	..
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE				
41 Tower Hill London EC3N 4HA				
071-702 9861				
Managed	108.3	113.9	+1.3	..
Do Pens	118.1	124.3	+1.4	..
UK Equity	98.8	103.9	+1.9	..
Do Pens	102.6	108.0	+2.0	..
International	87.6	92.2	+1.1	..
Do Pens	87.6	92.2	+1.1	..
Deposit	115.9	122.0	+0.2	..
Do Pens	127.8	134.5	+0.3	..
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION				
3, Finsbury Ave London EC2M 2PA				
071-638 5757				
UK Equity Inc	275.6	291.1	+4.5	..
UK Capital Gth	261.6	276.1	+3.0	..
Global Equity	266.0	280.6	+3.9	..
North America Fund	201.2	212.4	+6.5	..
Far East Fund	311.6	328.9	+3.9	..
Managed Fund	289.5	305.6	+3.6	..
Deposit Fund	189.9	195.6	+0.7	..
Prime Residential	139.6	147.0	..	..
European Fund	173.4	183.1	+2.1	..
Property Share Fd	120.2	126.6	..	..
HILL SAMUEL LIFE				
NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon				
081-686 4355				
Security Fund	329.7	346.9	+10.6	..
British Fund	342.6	362.6	+10.2	..
International Fund	307.8	325.6	+4.8	..
Dollar Fund	220.4	233.3	+3.8	..
Capital Fund	303.4	321.1	+6.5	..
Income Fund	441.5	467.2	+6.9	..
Property Series 'A'	370.4	392.0	..	..
Property Units	614.5	645.3	..	..
Financial Fund	312.4	330.6	+8.4	..
Managed Series 'A'	361.2	382.3	+13.0	..
Do 'C'	224.9	238.0	+7.3	..
Managed Units	639.3	673.0	+21.2	..
High Yield Fund	425.3	450.1	+6.6	..
Money Series 'A'	232.3	245.9	+0.6	..
Money Units	302.1	318.0	+0.6	..
Equity Fund	393.0	415.9	+11.5	..
Fixed Interest Fund	250.5	265.1	−2.6	..
Indexed Secs Fund	138.7	146.6	−0.7	..
European Fund	470.3	497.7	+7.2	..
Natural Res Fund	182.4	193.1	+0.5	..
Far East Fund	363.1	384.3	+2.1	..
Smaller Co's Fund	290.9	307.9	+2.1	..
Special Sits Fund	309.3	327.4	+0.6	..
Man Currency Fund	201.1	212.9	−1.2	..
Japanese Tech	188.5	199.5	+2.7	..
US Smaller Co's	101.0	106.9	+3.1	..
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE				
Longbow House, 20, Chiswell St, London EC1 4TY				
071-638 1731				
Global Managed 3	371.1	390.6	+5.2	..
Global Property 3	248.0	261.1	+2.5	..
Global Fixed Int 3	363.5	382.6	+0.2	..
Global Equity 3	415.1	436.9	+7.2	..
Global Cash 3	174.1	183.3	+0.4	..
LAS GROUP				
19, George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2YH				
031-225 5494				
Managed Fund	217.1	228.6	+5.6	..
UK Equity	368.1	387.5	+8.7	..
Property	280.6	295.4	+2.1	..
Money Market	206.6	217.5	+0.4	..
Fixed Interest	237.3	249.8	+0.4	..
Japan	254.1	267.5	+2.6	..
North America	92.2	97.0	+0.1	..
International	189.2	199.4	..	..
European	163.6	172.2	+1.9	..
Far East	71.5	75.3	+0.2	..
Special Sits	67.9	71.5	+1.5	..
LAURENTIAN LIFE				
Barnwood Gloucester GL4 7RZ				
0452 371371				
Managed	275.6	290.1	+6.7	..
Gtd Mgd	374.6	394.6	+0.4	..
Property	468.5	493.0	+0.4	..
American	240.3	253.0	+6.9	..
UK Equity Fd	289.6	309.8	+7.9	..
Japan	141.3	148.7	−0.9	..
Index-Lkd	143.7	151.3	..	..
High Yield	530.5	558.4	+16.6	..
Gilt Edged	317.1	333.8	+0.1	..
Money	327.3	344.5	+0.4	..
International	246.5	259.5	+4.8	..
Henderson Active	133.6	140.6	+2.2	..
Perpetual Active	168.1	177.0	+8.1	..
Growth Cap	338.2	356.0	..	..
Do Acc	423.2	445.5	+8.4	..
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE				
2, Montefiore Rd, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE				
0273 724666				
Bldg Soc Lnkd Init	124.6	131.1	+0.1	..
Do Accum	151.7	159.7	+0.2	..
Brit Opps Ini	93.6	98.6	+2.3	..
Do Accum	103.2	108.7	+2.4	..
Cash Initial	153.2	161.3	+0.2	..
Do Accum	234.5	246.9	+0.4	..
Equity Initial	459.7	483.9	+10.4	..
Do Accum	703.5	740.6	+16.0	..
Fixed Initial	267.3	281.4	..	..
Do Accum	409.1	430.7	..	..
Index-Linked Gilt	111.9	117.8	+0.1	..
Do Accum	148.9	153.7	+0.1	..
Intl Initial	225.8	237.7	+3.3	..
Do Accum	340.1	358.0	+4.8	..
Managed Initial	336.6	354.4	+6.8	..
Do Accum	515.1	542.3	+9.0	..
Property Initial	200.1	210.7	+0.3	..
Do Accum	306.2	322.4	+0.6	..
LEGAL & GENERAL PROPERTY				
11, Queen Vic St London EC4N 4TP				
071-248 9678				
L & G (28)	300.0	310.5	..	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
LONDON LIFE				
100, Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA				
0272 279179				
Equity	605.6		+7.6	..
Fixed Interest	279.8		+0.7	..
Property	380.7		+0.9	..
Deposit	236.1		+0.5	..
Mixed	401.3		+3.7	..
Indexed Stock	158.4		+0.5	..
International	178.3		+1.3	..
Equity A	141.4		+1.8	..
Fixed Int A	124.9		+0.3	..
Property A	159.5		+0.4	..
Deposit A	139.6		+0.3	..
Mixed A	132.7		+1.2	..
Index Stock A	124.8		+0.4	..
International A	112.1		+0.9	..
Equity P	458.2		+6.9	..
Fixed Int P	350.8		+1.3	..
Property P	278.2		+0.4	..
Deposit P	280.3		+0.8	..
Mixed P	338.5		+3.7	..
Index Stock P	180.2		+0.8	..
International P	186.8		+1.5	..
LON & MANCHESTER GROUP				
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS				
0392 52155				
Inv Trust Cap	398.1		+4.2	..
Do Accum	580.3		+6.4	..
Property Cap	182.5		−0.1	..
Do Accum	252.2		..	..
Fixed Interest Cap	168.4		−0.4	..
Do Accum	228.8		−0.5	..
Equity Cap	239.4		+4.0	..
Do Accum	331.8		+5.7	..
International Cap	172.6		+2.4	..
Do Accum	227.9		+3.4	..
Gtd Deposit Cap	164.0		+0.1	..
Do Accum	224.1		+0.3	..
Flexible Cap	272.0		+3.2	..
Do Accum	376.7		+4.6	..
Moneymaker Fund	306.2		+3.5	..
Capital Growth Fund	£10.334		+0.16	..
M & G				
Three Quays, Tower Hill EC3R 6BQ				
071-626 4588				
Amer Bond Acc	242.4	254.6	+5.6	..
Amer Rec Bond	224.8	236.5	+8.4	..
Amer Smlr Co Bond	106.7	112.1	+6.6	..
Australasia Bond	103.3	108.5	+1.0	..
Commodity Bond	158.0	166.0	+2.7	..
Deposit Bond Acc	295.7	310.6	+0.6	..
Equity Bond Accum	837.0	879.0	+8.4	..
European Bond Acc	226.0	237.4	+3.3	..
Extra Yld Bd Accum	431.6	453.2	+9.4	..
Far East Bd Accum	149.7	160.9	+2.4	..
Gilt Bond Accum	308.1	323.6	−0.3	..
Gold Bond Accum	69.8	73.0	+0.2	..
High Yield Bond	247.2	259.7	+3.7	8.58
Index-Linked Gt Bd	160.5	168.6	−0.2	..
International Bond	430.9	452.5	+7.2	..
Japan Bond Acc	202.2	212.4	+0.4	..
Japan Smlr Co Acc	159.6	167.7	+4.1	..
Managed Bonds	498.1	523.3	+4.8	..
Prop Bond Accum	348.8	365.5	−3.9	..
Rec Bond Accum	434.2	456.0	+6.2	..
MGM ASSURANCE				
MGM Hse Heene Rd, Worthing BN11 2DY				
0903 204631				
UK Equity Fund	176.7	186.0	+3.6	..
Do Accum	220.1	231.7	+4.6	..
Special Sits Fund	104.9	110.5	−0.3	..
Do Accum	130.7	137.6	−0.3	..
North American Fd	122.2	128.7	+1.4	..
Do Accum	152.2	160.3	+1.7	..
Pacific Basin Fund	242.3	255.1	+3.0	..
Do Accum	301.8	317.7	+3.8	..
Fixed Interest Fund	227.1	239.1	+0.4	..
Do Accum	283.1	298.0	+0.8	..
Property Fund	166.7	175.5	−0.5	..
Do Accum	207.8	218.8	−0.5	..
Deposit Fund	133.9	141.0	+0.1	..
Do Accum	167.5	176.4	+0.2	..
Managed Fund	190.0	200.0	+2.9	..
Do Accum	225.3	237.2	+3.4	..
MANUFACTURERS LIFE				
St Georges Way, Stevenage				
0438 356101				
Managed Fund	476.0	501.1	..	..
Property Fund	479.6	504.8	..	..
Equity Fund	564.9	594.6	..	..
Gilt Edged Fund	428.4	450.9	..	..
Deposit Fund	269.4	283.6	..	..
Investment Fund	242.0	254.1	..	..
International Fund	339.4	357.3	..	..
MERCHANT INVESTORS				
Leon House, 233 High St Croydon				
081-686 9171				
Property	492.5	518.4	−3.6	..
Equity Bond	216.4	228.7	+4.2	..
Money Market Bond	392.5	413.1	−0.7	..
Deposit Fund	304.7	320.7	+0.4	..
Managed Fund	323.6	340.6	+3.3	..
Intl Equity	317.8	334.5	+5.5	..
Intl Managed	319.7	336.5	+6.5	..
North American	122.6	129.2	−0.2	..
Far East	229.7	241.7	+3.6	..
Intl Currency	204.1	214.8	+0.4	..
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Enterprise Hse, Portsmouth				
0705 827733				
Equity	94.2	99.1	+3.4	..
Fixed Interest	388.5	408.9	+0.5	..
Managed	496.6	522.7	+10.2	..
Deposit	276.7	291.2	+0.5	..
Overseas	205.0	216.7	+5.3	..
Property	354.1	372.7	+1.1	..
American	240.0	252.1	+6.5	..
Australian	251.0	264.2	+4.5	..
European	355.9	374.6	+17.0	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	203.1	213.7	+0.4	..
Global Managed	98.0	103.1	+1.3	..
Income Accum	529.1	556.9	+31.5	..
Do Dist	354.2	372.8●	+18.0	..
International	209.3	220.3	+7.3	..
Japan Smaller	418.4	440.4	+19.1	..
Singapore & Mal	149.6	157.4	+5.3	..
Smaller Companies	280.2	294.9	+0.4	..
Tokyo Fund	412.0	433.6	+22.4	..
UK Equity	402.8	424.0	+9.7	..
CCM Vangu'd Mgd	476.9	502.0	+9.2	..
Equity Pension Cap	629.8	662.9	+18.4	..
Overseas Pension	234.3	246.6	+3.4	..
NATIONAL PROVIDENT				
48, Gracechurch St, EC3P 3HH				
071-623 4200				
Managed	308.9	325.2	+5.8	..
UK Equity	384.2	404.5	+9.7	..
Overseas Equity	330.7	348.0	+6.6	..
American	224.5	236.7	+7.6	..
Far East	296.8	312.5	+6.7	..
Property	192.9	203.1	−0.7	..
Fixed Interest	242.4	252.6	+0.5	..
Indexed Gilt	149.8	157.7	−0.2	..
Deposit	175.9	185.2	+0.3	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
NORWICH UNION				
PO Box 4, Norwich NR1 3NG				
0603 622200				
Managed Fund	891.3	938.3	+15.7	..
Equity Fund	£18.59	19.57	+0.48	..
Property Fund (3)	542.8	571.4	−4.1	..
Fixed Int Fund (3)	425.4	447.8	−0.7	..
Deposit Fund (3)	277.7	292.4	+0.8	..
Unit Fund (3)	137.5	144.8	+2.8	..
Unit-Linked Plus	893.31		..	..
PEARL ASSURANCE				
Pearl Assurance Hse, Thorpe Wood Peterborough PE3 6SA				
0733 63212				
Inv Prop Dist	149.8	157.7	+0.1	..
Do Accum	270.9	285.2	+0.2	..
Inv Equity	723.8	761.8	+22.0	..
Inv Managed	516.7	543.8	+12.0	..
Ret Managed	553.6	582.8	+15.0	..
PHOENIX ASSURANCE				
4-5, King William St, EC4N 7ER				
071-626 9876				
Wealth Assured	406.4	427.8	+5.7	..
Ebor Phoenix Equity	321.2	341.7	..	..
PROLIFIC LIFE & PENSIONS LTD				
Bridge Mills Stramongate Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4UB				
0539 733733				
Managed Fund	495.4	527.1	+11.6	..
Cash Fund	273.1	287.6	..	..
Property Fund	220.8	234.1	..	..
Equity Fund	584.3	594.7	+20.0	..
Fxd Interest Fund	298.9	315.0	+2.2	..
International	266.4	280.5	+7.5	..
High Income	416.6	445.4	+10.7	..
Far East	324.5	342.0	+16.8	..
North American	217.2	228.9	+13.6	..
Special Sits	464.1	493.6	+28.1	..
Technology	220.2	232.1	+18.2	..
Extra Income Fund	249.5	255.5	+11.5	..
Gilt Fund 29	339.5	361.2	−0.1	..
European	90.6	95.4	+4.4	..
Adventurous Mgd	111.2	118.3	+6.1	..
Secure Mgd	93.9	98.9	+3.0	..
Equity Inc Dist	82.3	86.6	+3.2	..
Managed Dist	81.4	85.8	+4.8	..
PROPERTY GROWTH				
Leon House, Croydon CR9 1LU				
081-680 0606				
Property Fund	441.2		−2.7	..
Property Fund (A)	417.7		−2.5	..
Agricultural Fund	604.7		−0.3	..
Agric Fund (A)	609.9		−0.2	..
Abbey Nat Fund	341.9		−0.9	..
Abbey Nat Fund (A)	305.7		−0.9	..
Investment Fund	222.1		+4.4	..
Investment Fund (A)	214.4		+4.3	..
Equity Fund	827.8		+22.8	..
Equity (A)	798.8		+22.0	..
Money Fund	375.8		+0.5	..
Money Fund (A)	382.2		+0.4	..
Actuarial Fund	354.1		+7.1	..
Gilt-Edged Fund	274.6		..	..
Gilt-Edged Fund (A)	274.6		..	..
Retire Annuity	680.4		..	..
Immed Annuity	380.5		..	..
International Fund	307.9		+6.4	..
Bldg Soc Life Fund	184.1		+0.2	..
PROVIDENCE CAPITAL				
30, Uxbridge Rd, W12 8PG				
081-749 9111				
Equity Fund Accum	197.6	208.4	+6.6	..
Fixed Interest Acc	166.7	175.9	+0.2	..
International Accum	148.2	156.4	+0.5	..
Managed Accum	155.6	164.3	+2.6	..
Property Accum	226.0	238.4	−0.1	..
Money Accum	125.3	132.2	+0.2	..
Special Mkt Accum	119.7	126.3	+2.7	..
Japan Equity Acc	85.1	89.8	−1.3	..
N Amer Accum	86.2	91.0	+1.5	..
Pacific Accum	74.1	78.2	+0.7	..
Technology Accum	91.5	96.6	+2.7	..
Natural Res Accum	47.8	50.5	−1.1	..
European Accum	88.6	93.5	+1.3	..
PROVIDENT MUTUAL				
25/31, Moorgate London EC2R 6BA				
071-628 3232				
Managed Ord	317.2	333.9	+4.5	..
Managed Initial	242.2	254.9	+3.3	..
Equity Ord	469.3	495.3	+10.5	..
Equity Init	354.2	372.8	+8.0	..
Index-Lnkd Gilt Ord	151.8	159.8	+0.1	..
Index Linked Gilt Init	121.0	127.4	−0.1	..
Oseas Equity Ord	233.5	245.8	+3.0	..
Oseas Equity Initial	178.3	187.7	+2.2	..
Property Ord	215.7	227.1	+0.3	..
Property Initial	164.7	173.4	+0.1	..
Fixed Int Ord	198.2	208.6	−0.1	..
Fixed Int Initial	149.8	157.7	−0.2	..
Deposit Ord	167.9	176.7	+0.3	..
Deposit Initial	128.2	134.9	+0.1	..
PRUDENTIAL				
Holborn Bars, EC1N 2NH				
071-405 9222				
Managed	218.3	229.5	+2.2	..
PRUDENTIAL HOLBORN LIFE LTD				
30 Old Burlington Street London W1X 1LB				
071-439 3134				
Managed Fund	476.0	500.2	+7.2	..
Equity Fund	989.1	1040.2	+22.1	..
Intl Fund	316.8	333.5	+6.0	..
Fixed Interest Fund	404.0	425.3	..	..
Property Fund	379.9	399.8	−3.3	..
Cash Fund	297.8	313.5	+0.5	..
Pacific Basin Fd	171.0	180.0	−0.4	..
N American Fd	117.5	123.7	+5.0	..
Euro Fund	180.1	189.6	+2.3	..
Balanced Fund	96.7	101.8	+2.3	..
Strategic Fund	98.2	103.4	+2.4	..
REGENCY LIFE ASS CO				
85-87 High Holborn London WC1V 6DU				
071-831 7481				
Series 2 Mgd Fund	275.8	291.1	+4.8	..
Series 2 Equity Fund	346.3	366.5	+8.7	..
Series 2 Prop Fund	382.6	405.1	+2.8	..
Series 2 Fix Int Fund	229.4	242.8	+0.5	..
Series 2 Money Fd	204.5	216.5	+0.3	..
Series 2 O'seas Fd	188.2	199.2	+3.1	..
Tulip Invest Fund	274.4	288.9	−1.7	..
Tulip Mangd Fund	344.7	364.8	+5.6	..
Mngd Inv Fd Int	231.8	246.1	+4.0	..
Do Accum	282.2	298.7	+4.7	..
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE LTD				
20, Clifton Street, London EC2A 4HX				
071-920 0202 0733 282524				
Mutl Growth (45)	486.1		..	..
Mutl Growth 'A' (45)	455.1	480.2	..	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Op 8 Prop	374.0	393.7	..	..
Op 8 Equity	608.9	641.0	+6.1	..
Op 8 High Yield	395.3	416.2	+0.2	..
Op 8 Managed	482.1	507.5	+4.7	..
Op 8 Deposit	320.4	337.3	+0.51	4.00
Amer Smaller	82.0	86.3	+4.6	..
Extra Inc	129.7	136.5	+6.6	..
Far East	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gold Shr	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Inc Gth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Man Growth	282.6	297.5	−0.3	..
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE				
New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS				
051-227 4422				
Royal Shield Fund	597.6	621.7	+13.2	..
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	238.9	251.4	+5.3	..
Equity Fund	336.1	353.8	+21.0	..
Property Fund	220.1	231.6	−0.4	..
International Fund	282.6	297.5	+13.2	..
Pacific Basin Fund	159.6	167.9	+2.2	..
United States Fund	118.9	125.1	+6.5	..
Gilt Fund	247.5	260.5	+0.2	..
SAVE & PROSPER				
1, Finsbury Ave London,EC2M 2QY				
0708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	510.6	540.4	+8.7	..
Deposit Fund (2)	299.6	317.1	+0.4	..
Gilt Fund	362.9	373.5	+0.6	..
Global Equity Fund	148.5	156.1	+2.7	..
Property Fund (46)	79.5	84.2a	+0.2	..
AG Bond Fund	114.5	121.2	+0.4	..
SCOTTISH AMICABLE				
150 St Vincent St, Glasgow				
041-248 2323				
Equity	388.2	409.7	−8.0	..
Fixed Interest	245.6	258.6	+1.4	..
International	254.6	267.8	+6.9	..
Property	232.2	244.5	..	..
Cash	187.9	197.8	+0.2	..
Managed	303.9	319.9	+6.7	..
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE				
28, St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 1YF				
031 556 9101				
Cash	145.6	153.2	+0.28	..
Index-Linked	130.3	138.0	−0.7	..
Fixed Interest	127.2	133.9	+0.3	..
Mixed	167.5	176.3	+2.8	..
UK Equity	165.0	173.7	+3.8	..
International	170.2	179.2	+2.2	..
American	136.6	143.8	+2.6	..
Japan	178.2	187.6	+0.3	..
European	188.6	198.6	+3.2	..
Pacific	192.5	202.6	+1.5	..
Technology	176.1	185.5	+3.5	..
Foreign Bd/Currency	148.2	156.0	+0.1	..
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
19 St Andrews Sq, Edinburgh EH2 1YE				
031-225 2211				
Property	173.9	183.1	−0.1	..
UK Equity	232.8	245.0●	+4.9	..
American	137.4	144.7●	+2.4	..
Pacific	187.6	197.8●	+1.7	..
European	278.9	293.7	+4.4	..
International	179.6	189.1	+2.8	..
Fixed Interest	161.1	169.7	+1.2	..
Index Linked	153.3	161.4	+0.1	..
Deposit	156.0	164.3	+0.2	..
Managed	182.0	191.7	+2.8	..
Worldwide	75.4	79.5	+0.9	..
Pen Worldwide	76.2	80.3	+1.0	..
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE				
109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN				
041-248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	£10.66	11.21	..	..
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENTS				
109, St Vincent St, Glasgow				
041-248 6321				
Safety Fund	162.9	171.5	+1.4	..
Growth Fund	153.4	161.5	+2.0	..
Opportunity Fund	154.1	162.0	+2.3	..
Cash Fund	141.8	149.3	+0.2	..
European Fund	219.6	231.2	+3.1	..
Gilts & Fxd Int Fund	135.6	142.5	+0.6	..
Index-Linked Fund	135.6	142.7	..	..
International Fund	176.2	184.5	+2.1	..
North American Fd	139.0	146.4	+1.9	..
Property Fund	127.1	133.8	+0.1	..
UK Equity	163.0	171.6	+3.6	..
UK Smaller	148.4	156.3	+1.3	..
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT				
6 St Andrews Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA				
031-556 9181				
Mixed	174.6	183.8	+2.9	..
Equity	180.0	189.6	+6.0	..
International	172.5	182.0	+1.5	..
Property	212.4	223.7	−2.4	..
Fixed Interest	156.4	164.6	+0.3	..
Index Linked	136.8	144.1	−0.3	..
Cash	154.9	163.1	+0.3	..
SCOTTISH WIDOWS				
PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU				
031-655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	623.9		..	..
Inv Pol 2	572.3	602.5	..	..
Inv Pol 3	551.5	580.6	..	..
Inv Cash	252.0	265.4	..	..
Mixed Fund	318.3	335.1	+4.5	..
Equity Fund	375.2	395.0	+8.0	..
Property Fund	217.6	229.2	−7.6	..
International Fund	305.2	321.3	+4.2	..
Fixed Interest Fund	244.6	257.0	+0.5	..
Indexed Stock Fund	150.5	158.5	+0.3	..
Cash Fund	182.1	191.7	+0.3	..
SKANDIA LIFE				
Frobisher Hse, Nelsons Gate, Southampton SO1 7BX				
0703 334411				

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Managed Accum	250.6	263.8	+6.2	
Equity Accum	285.0	299.9	+3.7	
International Accum	213.9	225.1	+3.3	
Property	217.4	228.8	+0.2	
Royal Trust Magd	157.1	165.3	+2.4	
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Managed	581.3	611.9	+12.4	
Nth American	92.0	96.9	+1.2	
Property	378.3	398.3	−1.0	
Stock Exchange	128.8	135.6	+3.0	
SUN ALLIANCE				
Sun Alliance Hse, Horsham, Sussex				
0403 64141				
Managed Fund	420.8	443.0	+8.5	
Equity Fund	575.5	605.8	+18.3	
Fixed Interest Fund	296.2	318.9	+0.1	
Index Linked Fund	228.3	240.4	+0.1	
Property Fund	392.2	412.9	−2.6	
International Fund	364.1	383.3	+6.0	
N American Fund	114.1	120.2	+2.5	
Far East Fund	120.7	127.1	+2.0	
Deposit Fund	239.7	252.4	+0.2	
International Bond	£45.06		+0.19	
Worldwide Bond	..		..	
Worldwide Fincl	59.1	62.3	+1.8	
Worldwide Tech	68.3	71.9	+1.9	
European	99.8	105.1	+1.7	
SUN LIFE OF CANADA				
Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ				
Dealings:0256-841414				
Growth Account	918.2		+1.1	
Managed Account	568.2		+0.6	
Equity Account	759.6		−0.1	
Mngd Fund Accum	259.7	273.4	+6.2	
Equity Fund Accum	338.8	356.6	−0.1	
Prop Fund Accum	244.6	257.5	+0.2	
Fixed Int Fd Acc	212.9	224.1	+2.4	
Money Fund Accum	178.5	187.7	+0.2	
Indx-Lnkd Sec Acc	158.7	167.0	+0.9	
Pens Pens Account	£11.222		..	
Pens Mngd Account	522.1	549.5	..	
Pens Guarantee	176.1	185.3	..	
Pens Equity	195.7	206.1	..	
Pens Property	205.6	216.4	..	
Pens Fixed Int	181.5	191.0	..	
Pens Intl	127.8	134.4	..	
Pens Money	179.5	189.0	..	
Pens Index-Lnkd	144.5	152.1	..	
SUN LIFE UNIT				
St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL				
0272 426911				
Managed Accum	560.3	589.8	+11.1	
Property Accum	297.1	312.8	−1.0	
Equity Accum	872.1	918.1	+25.0	
Fixed Int Accum	263.6	277.5	+0.5	
Index-Linked Accum	146.7	154.5	−0.3	
Cash Accum	252.0	265.3	+0.4	
Amer Equity Accum	214.4	225.7	+5.5	
US Bonds Accum	134.4	141.5	..	
Japan Accum	221.2	232.9	+0.1	
Pacific Accum	142.3	149.8	+3.1	
Far Eastern Accum	381.0	401.1	+7.6	
International Accum	302.4	318.4	+4.7	
US Dollar Accum	81.9	86.3	..	
Yen Accum	125.7	132.4	..	
Euro Ccr Accum	128.2	135.0	..	
Distribution Fund	223.4	235.2	+2.5	
European	112.4	118.4	+1.5	
TARGET LIFE				
Target House, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury Bucks				
Aylesbury (0296) 394000				
American Eagle	96.0	101.1	+2.6	
Australian	18.4	19.4	+0.5	
Deposit	207.8	218.8	+0.3	
Residential Prop	90.7	95.5	+0.1	
Financial	178.4	188.7	+4.1	
Fixed Interest	251.3	265.0	+0.8	
Gold	51.9	54.7	+1.3	
Income	347.1	365.2	+6.8	
International Equity	241.6	254.3	+10.9	
Japan	282.6	297.7	−0.7	
Managed	415.3	437.2	+16.3	
International Bond	87.1	92.7●	+0.5	
Managed Prop	142.0	149.6	..	
Pacific	209.0	220.0	..	
Preference	164.2	172.9	+1.2	
Property	266.0	280.0	..	
Sterling	10.5			
UK Cap	160.7	169.2	+2.6	
UK Cap Pen				
World Income	174.2	183.4	+6.9	
Euro Situations	149.7	158.7	+1.4	
TSB LIFE LTD				
Keens House, Andover, Hants, SP10 1PG				
0264 56789				
Managed Fund	185.3	195.2	+4.1	
Property Fund	166.5	176.4		
Fixed Interest Fund	154.5	162.7	+0.4	
Money Fund	162.3	171.0	+0.2	
Equity Fund	237.1	249.7	+6.6	
TYNDALL ASSURANCE				
401, St John Street, London EC1V 4QE 071-837 6494				
3-Way Fund	380.1	399.2	+8.50	
UK Equity	222.1	233.7	+4.83	
N American Equity	179.4	188.8	+6.77	
Far East Equity	267.8	281.7	+8.74	
Fixed	208.6	219.6	+0.05	
Cash Deposit	166.6	175.5	+0.07	
Property	102.4	107.8	+7.20	
Special Opp	206.6	216.7	+1.40	
Managed	198.5	209.6	+6.37	
Index-Linked Fd	146.7	154.4	−0.08	

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Losses trimmed

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began January 28. Dealings end February 8. §Contango day February 11. Settlement day February 18.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio

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No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Reed Int	Newspapers,Pub	
2	Blue Circle	Building,Roads	
3	Fine Art Dev	Drapery,Stores	
4	Hepworth	Industrials E-K	
5	Tesco	Foods	
6	Lon Intl	Industrials L-R	
7	Bradford	Property	
8	Enterprise	Oil,Gas	
9	Wessex Water	Water	
10	Whitbread 'A'	Breweries	
11	Yule Catto	Chemicals,Plas	
12	Dawson	Textiles	
13	LASMO	Oil,Gas	
14	Ellis & Everard	Chemicals,Plas	
15	Higgs & Hill	Building,Roads	
16	Compass Gp	Leisure	
17	Trusthse Ft	Hotels,Caterers	
18	Greig	Transport	
19	Logica	Electricals	
20	Pentland	Industrials L-R	
21	Persimmon	Building,Roads	
22	Utd Biscuits	Foods	
23	Bardon Group	Building,Roads	
24	Telfos	Industrials S-Z	
25	Sthrn Water	Water	
26	Kwik Save	Foods	
27	Amec	Building,Roads	
28	Norcros	Industrials L-R	
29	Geest	Foods	
30	RMC Gp	Building,Roads	
31	Brown & Tawse	Industrials A-D	
32	Meyer Int	Building,Roads	
33	Body Shop	Drapery,Stores	
34	BWI	Industrials A-D	
35	Hambros	Banks,Discount	
36	Travis Perkins	Building,Roads	
37	Carlton Comm	Leisure	
38	AB Elect	Electricals	
39	Manders (J)	Building,Roads	
40	Hardys & Hansons	Breweries	
41	Granada	Industrials E-K	
42	Wellcome	Industrials S-Z	
43	Kleinwort Benson	Banks,Discount	
44	Portals	Industrials L-R	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.		Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Three readers shared the £4,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. Mr P Becque, of Ickenham, Middlesex, Mr T Patton, of Guiseley, Yorkshire, and Mrs G Webb, of Scunthorpe, each receive £1,333.33.

Portfolio

PLATINUM

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FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

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E - K

L - R

S - Z

INSURANCE

Investment Trusts appear on Page 31

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MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

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OILS, GAS

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PROPERTY

SHOES, LEATHER

TEXTILES

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● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

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Portfolio PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 33).

Share No	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Weekly Total
1	+6	+6	+4		+7		
2	+3	+3	+2		+3		
3	+4	+6	+7		+6		
4	+7	+4	+3		+8		
5	+6	+8	+6		+4		
6	+4	+4	+3		+4		
7	+4	+2	+3		+5		
8	+6	+6	+1		+9		
9	+5	+8	+5		+5		
10	+3	+3	+4		+4		
11	+6	+5	+3		+3		
12	+5	+7	+7		+6		
13	+3	+3	+4		+4		
14	+5	+3	+4		+5		
15	+8	+6	+2		+9		
16	+5	+6	+5		+5		
17	+8	+5	+2		+8		
18	+4	+8	+5		+6		
19	+3	+4	+2		+5		
20	+7	+5	+2		+7		
21	+6	+7	+6		+4		
22	+5	+5	+4		+3		
23	+4	+2	+2		+6		
24	+3	+4	+3		+4		
25	+6	+5	+2		+7		
26	+4	+6	+6		+5		
27	+3	+4	+2		+3		
28	+5	+3	+2		+4		
29	+7	+4	+2		+8		
30	+3	+5	+3		+3		
31	+6	+6	+7		+4		
32	+4	+3	+3		+4		
33	+3	+3	+3		+4		
34	+6	+5	+1		+7		
35	+8	+4	+2		+9		
36	+4	+2	+2		+3		
37	+4	+4	+3		+4		
38	+5	+3	+4		+3		
39	+5	+7	+6		+5		
40	+3	+3	+2		+4		
41	+7	+4	+2		+8		
42	+5	+8	+6		+4		
43	+4	+3	+2		+4		
44	+3	+5	+4		+5		

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Taxman has gross interest taped

By Barbara Ellis

FROM April non-taxpayers will be able to receive bank and building society interest without tax being deducted. Taxpayers can also earn interest gross on certain sorts of investment but, as a number have learned to their cost since the start of independent taxation, such income is subject to special rules.

Interest is paid gross to taxpayers' offshore accounts, National Savings accounts or government fixed interest stocks (gilts) bought through the National Stock Register that is run by the Post Office.

The tax charge on interest paid gross is normally based on the amount of interest credited in the preceding year, except in the first two years when it is based on the amount actually received.

In the third year, tax starts to be assessed on the basis of the preceding 12 months, but the taxpayer can choose to be charged on interest actually received if this results in a lower bill.

When an account is closed, the tax charge is based on the interest earned in that year. The Inland Revenue is also entitled to switch the charge for the penultimate year on to an actual basis, increasing the amount payable.

NICK MALAND

Tax on gross interest is due for payment on January 1 within the tax year. But higher rate taxpayers may find that the difference between the basic rate and the top rate is included in their higher rate assessment due on December 1 in the following tax year.

Employees taxed under the Pay As You Earn (Paye) system will usually have the tax on any gross interest collected via an adjustment in their tax codes.

Over the years, taxpayers have raised a number of objections to the rules, but without success.

In 1985, a taxpayer receiving gross interest on a gilt-edged stock protested against the use of preceding year assessments in the fourth and fifth year. He claimed he was being assessed on the same income twice and was being forced to pay tax before receiving the full amount of interest in the year of assessment. In the first three years assessments had been based on income. He lost.

Another taxpayer appealed against assessment for 1975-6 and 1976-7, both of which were based on interest earned in 1975-6 as the source of income had first arisen in 1974-5. He argued — unsuccessfully — that interest for 1975-6 had already been assessed. The Revenue can also trip up those who try to exploit the preceding year rules, by treating a substantial addition to an account as a new source of income.

In the Fifties, a man who had held an account for some years and suddenly paid in £2 million expecting to be taxed on the previous year's small amount of interest, found that he was charged on the current year's interest instead.

Backed by the Court of Appeal, the Revenue said that the £2 million was a new source of income and subject to the opening year rules.

A Revenue spokesman said that in practice the interest on new deposits will normally be taxed on the previous year basis.

For the coming tax year, the Inland Revenue said that people who register to receive gross interest from banks and building societies and who later prove to be liable for tax will have to pay on a current year basis.

With accounts or investments held in joint names, the Inland Revenue will assume that any gross interest is shared equally, unless the holders make a declaration that ownership is in different proportions.

If they do this, the building society will pay one equal share gross and the other equal share net and the holder who is a non taxpayer needs to sort it out with the Revenue at the end of the year.

Surge in BES funds forecast

By Liz Dolan

A SHARP increase in funds for this year's Business Expansion Schemes (BES) is being forecast as the annual flood of applications starts before the end of the tax year on April 6.

John Spiers, editor of *BESt Investment*, the specialist magazine, estimates that more than £200 million will be raised before the end of the tax year, compared with £165 million last time, because of a continuing trend towards supposedly safer schemes with guaranteed returns.

Mr Spiers said: "It's difficult to know how much more than that will be raised. Guaranteed growth schemes have the potential to attract many hundreds of millions. But it depends how well sponsors can get to new investors."

People can invest up to £40,000 a year in a qualifying company and receive tax relief at their highest rate. If investors hold shares in the company for five years they do not have to pay capital gains tax when they sell them.

Next week, Sun Life, the life insurance company, is launching the latest in its series of "protected value" assured tenancy schemes, Besres Campus 5. They are also known as guaranteed growth schemes.

Investors buy student halls of residence through a company that has the right to sell the property back to the university after four years at a 35 per cent premium. The scheme promises higher rate taxpayers an annual after-tax return of between 16.5 and 17 per cent. Profits are held on deposit during the fifth year.

Johnson Fry, the financial adviser, has also launched its Guaranteed Super Growth Scheme promising a return of 17.35 per cent for higher rate taxpayers.

Companies set up under this scheme buy properties from universities and housing associations, which promise to buy them back after five years at a price adjusted to give shareholders a 40 per cent profit on the original investment.

Investors will also be able to take out a minimum fixed interest loan of £5,000 from the Bank of Scotland. Interest payments, fixed at the prevailing bank rate, are rolled up until the end of the five-year period and paid from the proceeds of the scheme.

The Peabody Trust, the charity, is trying to raise up to £5 million through a guaranteed growth assured tenancy scheme to upgrade housing stock and acquire new hostels for homeless people. The trust has promised to buy back the property at 140 per cent of the sale price.

Other schemes do not guarantee any return and are therefore higher risk.

BRIEFINGS

MORTGAGE providers continue to offer fixed rate loans while interest rates remain high. National Westminster Bank is offering 12.75 per cent for two years and Chase de Vere between 11.75 and 12.2 per cent for five years. John Charcol guarantees 11.75 per cent for buyers and 12.25 per cent for remortgages until July 1994, Peter Gargett, the mortgage broker, 11.5 per cent for five years, and National Home Loans 12.5 per cent capped until February 1992.

☐ Cannon Lincoln has launched a long-term healthcare plan as an optional extra to its Your Generation pension range. There is a 10 per cent reduction on initial pension payments in return for a higher pension if plan holders are unable to care for themselves after injury or disease.

☐ Providence Capitol has set up a package of four guaranteed growth bonus bonds to fund a tax exempt special savings account (Tessa). Minimum investment is £5,000 for basic rate and £5,125 for top rate taxpayers. Both receive an 8.8 per cent return on the bonds. Consolidated Life has also launched a Tessa feeder, involving a £3,000 payment into a Tessa plus a single premium investment of £4,910 into four guaranteed bonds with an annual 9.75 per cent return. North of England Building Society has boosted the rate offered on its Tessa by 1 per cent to 15 per cent gross, and now guarantees a 4.5 per cent differential above the basic gross interest rate.

☐ *Abbey National is extending* its offer of 1.25 per cent discount to first-time buyers from February 4 to February 28. The package offers a rate of 12.4 per cent on loans over £100,000, 12.7 per cent above £60,000 and 13.4 per cent below.

EDITED BY SARA MCCONNELL

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LETTERS

Pocket money does not count

From Mrs Lesley Millard

Sir, Is it now a thing of the past for children to be encouraged to save or is it that handling "pocket money" is now a hindrance?

Last week my 13-year-old daughter visited the building society to withdraw £5 from her account. She was told that the minimum amount she could withdraw was £10, although if she went to another branch half an hour later she could deposit the £5 she did not require.

While this was being puzzled out my ten-year-old daughter was informed that since she had less than £25 in her account it would have to be closed and that no new accounts could be opened without a £100 deposit. They both closed their accounts with some mutterings of which my husband would not have approved!

Nothing daunted, my five-year-old daughter then went to pay her much prized £1 coin into her Post Office Savings Bank account.

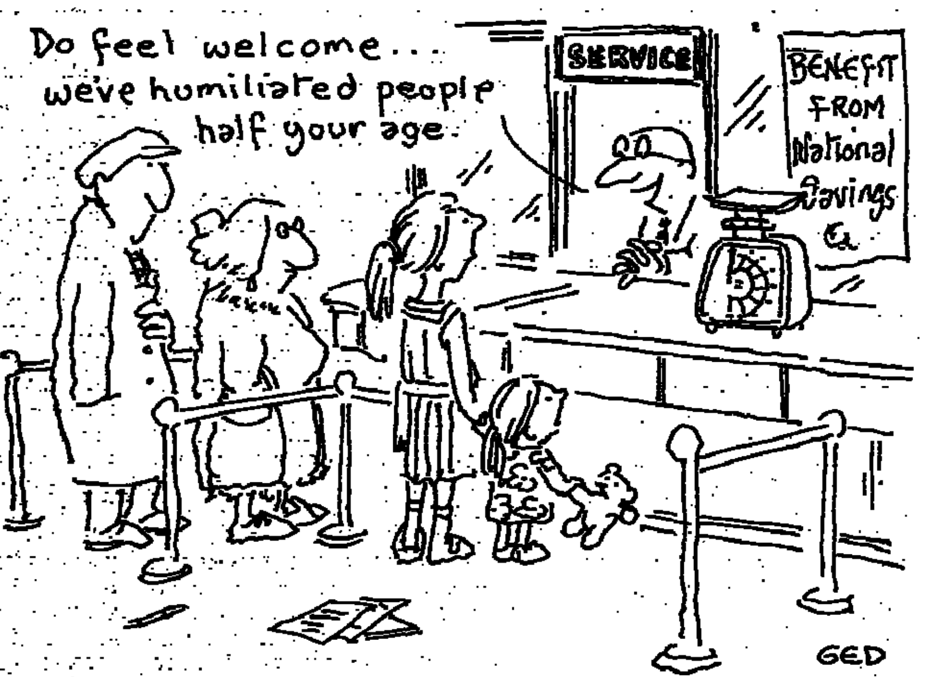
The family financial expedition was brought to a complete standstill when she was told that she could not deposit less than £5! More mutterings about the stupidities of the adult financial world and the inadequacy of their pocket money allowances!

Faced with this brick wall, how can children possibly learn to save money?

How do you explain to a five-year-old child that while the Post Office regards £1 as insignificant, she must treasure it?

Yours faithfully,
LESLEY MILLARD,
The Headmaster's House,
Wycliffe College,
Stonehouse,
Gloucestershire.

● Letters are welcomed, but *The Times* regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns and independent professional advice should be sought.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A taxing subject

From the managing director, Town & Country Building Society

Sir, I refer to Lindsay Cook's article (January 26) concerning composite rate tax.

The change over to basic rate tax is a complex area and I regret that the article contained some factual inaccuracies which will have added to the confusion.

After April 5, 1991 all societies must deduct income tax at basic rate from any interest payments made unless customers are able to complete Inland Revenue documentation which confirms that they are not liable to pay tax. In this respect the procedures of Town & Country Building Society are no different to any of our competitors.

Hitherto societies were liable to pay tax at a reduced composite rate (22 per cent) and quoted equivalent gross rates for comparative purposes only, as it was impossible for account holders to reclaim tax under those arrangements.

The vast majority of our investment accounts pay interest annually at the end of June or September and therefore the next payment will be subject to the deduction of basic rate tax, presently 25 per cent. Consequently we have had to allow for this when setting the rates for our accounts.

At no time has the society attempted to withhold income tax due and the suggestion that it has can only have arisen as a result of a misunderstanding.

Yours sincerely,
IAN BELL,
Managing director,
Town & Country Building Society,
12 Devereux Court, WC2.

● Abbey National had a June date for its Sterling Asset account and automatically offered investors an April 1 interest pay date to avoid basic rate taxpayers paying more than they need to.

Time and effort

From Mr N.K. Upton

Sir, With reference to letters from Messrs Charlish, Broomfield, Johnson and Dew on charging large businesses for their errors (January 19 and 26), readers may be interested in a recent attempt to do this.

After many attempts to convince the Halifax Building Society that they were charging me too much mortgage interest, to none of which they had replied properly, they suddenly accepted my arithmetic and made the necessary adjustment; my request for compensation for the interest, postage, stationery, and time which their inefficiency had cost me produced five pre-paid envelopes! I returned the unused envelopes and requested some more realistic compensation.

This produced a letter from an assistant manager expressing concern that I had "felt it necessary to once again correspond", followed by a cheque to cover the postal and interest costs, and a brusque letter from the manager expressing disappointment that I had not accepted "the gesture of sending pre-paid envelopes for future use". He also felt sure that I would appreciate that he was not in a position to compensate me for time spent in correspondence.

He was wrong, and I was too exhausted to point out the inconsistency between his assistant's concern at my having to write one further letter, and his expecting me to be grateful for five pre-paid envelopes in lieu of actual compensation!

Yours sincerely,
NEVILLE UPTON,
21 Rockingham Gardens,
Sutton Coldfield,
West Midlands.

Investors need notice

From the Rev V.S. Singh

Sir, The Nationwide Building Society has recently declared certain accounts "obsolete" and, because they are "obsolete", reduced the interest payable. No notice has been given to existing investors except a small placard at the back of the local branch, to be seen by chance.

These "obsolete" accounts have been replaced by new accounts more favourable to the investor and with a higher rate of interest.

However, holders of the now "obsolete" 90-day accounts cannot transfer all their savings to the new accounts without forfeiting interest on a considerable sum.

This appears to be sharp practice.

Do all building societies act in this way or is Nationwide alone?

Yours sincerely,
V.S. SINGH,
Manor Cottage,
Wendling Road,
Longham,
Dereham,
Norfolk.

Warning on Pep

From A.J. Lewis

Sir, Mr Ian Telford (January 19) is quite right to be cautious regarding the advantages of personal equity plans.

To the basic rate taxpayer, the saving on the income generated by a Pep will frequently not cover the annual charges; higher rate taxpayers are the only beneficiaries. For those seeking capital gains, why bother to use a Pep when £5,000 of capital gains are allowed on investments made in the normal way — external to any Pep arrangements?

Anyone seeking significant income from a Pep should consider one of the high income investment trusts. These can currently offer a yield of around 11 per cent, an amount which easily beats the Pep management charges.

Yours faithfully,
A.J. LEWIS,
Russets,
38 Heatherley Road,
Camberley,
Surrey.

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SIB rulebook 'has loophole'

By LIZ DOLAN

THE Consumers' Association *has accused the Securities and* Investments Board of failing adequately to regulate the behaviour of people acting as agents to insurance companies and other financial institutions.

A spokeswoman for the association said that the final SIB rulebook, out this week, appears to have provided a loophole for insurance companies which should otherwise be held responsible for the way their appointed representatives conduct their business.

"It is by no means clear what liability they will have to accept for appointed representatives," she said. The rulebook makes it clear that the appointing firm must make sure that its agent operates in an acceptable manner. However, it adds "but a firm does not break this requirement if it can show it has taken reasonable steps to comply with it".

The CA is concerned that "reasonable" is too vague a term. "It lets them off the hook if they can show that they have taken reasonable steps. What is reasonable?" The CA's own preferred solution would be for all appointed representatives to be regulated directly.

The final version of the rulebook kept reasonably close to that proposed in SIB's final consultative document. "The main changes involved tightening up and simplifying the language," said SIB.

The proposed rule on "churning", when intermediaries are deemed guilty of boosting their commission income by encouraging investors to make unnecessary changes to their investments, was softened to allow for hyperactive investors.

Other changes included the decision to allow overseas companies to advertise, so long as they made it clear that they were not regulated by British authorities.

Sir David Walker, chairman of SIB, said: "These rules are designed to be as clear and straightforward as possible though the business to which they relate may well be complex. Together with the principles, they provide a framework for regulation of investment business."

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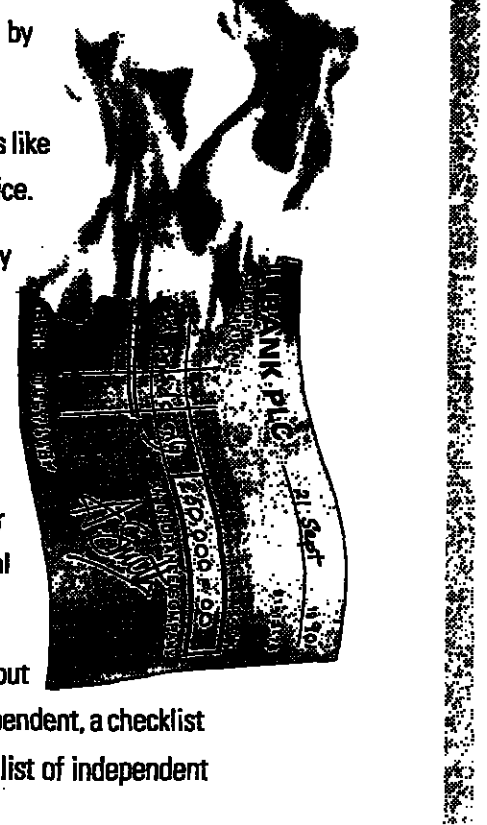

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INDEPENDENT

A mirror of customer needs

COMMENT

MARIE JENNINGS
CONSUMER CAMPAIGNER

There is much good in the Financial Services Act, but let us face the facts: the consumer is paying about £50 million a year for the cost of regulation. In my opinion, the consumer is not, thus far, receiving value for money.

Financial services regulators need to come down to earth and acknowledge that they need to know and to study the levels of consumer knowledge, understanding, needs and concern in relation to many aspects of personal finance.

Most people simply want to proceed with their lives and have little understanding of this increasingly sophisticated arena. Regulators need to know their worries and priorities and to take these into account in planning regulation.

They also need to understand their responsibility, to be accountable and to ensure that the consumer, who pays the bill, can be assured that levels of cost are not excessive and that duplication of activity is not caused by the isolation of self regulatory organisations (SROs) and/or the Securities and Investments Board (SIB).

Urgent action should be taken to stop investors falling between the "cracks" of the rules. For example, in only three recent cases relating to tied agents and appointed representatives of well-known financial organisations, £12 million belonging to about 675 investors is missing, paid into schemes not covered by the regulations and therefore potentially lost to investors.

Regulations should mirror consumer needs, not industry priorities, and must provide protection. Manufacturer and broker training schemes must endeavour to provide the perfect fit of an electric plug into a socket to ensure exact, accurate transfer of information to the consumer.

It should be a matter of shame that so far no financial services company has inaugurated an authoritative customer panels network to provide a dialogue of equals. The pattern is well established in other industries. Quality management systems are too thin on the ground in financial services, as are ethical codes. Practices with regard to complaints procedures, cross selling techniques, marketing hype and product claims still leave much to be desired.

From personal experience, gleaned over many years in consumer advice, I can report with sadness that some of the worst practices are in some of the largest and most prestigious companies.

Consumer access, information, advice, choice, complaints procedures and redress should be given much higher priority in companies and in the offices of regulators.

The current position does not provide the consumer with a fair deal. Choice is eroded by the constant weakening of the independent sector, which provides an important service on high streets. I submit, the needs of the consumers are quite plain: clear, explicit information; liaison with a competent, trained professional; comparisons on choice that are clear and unambiguous; and simple signposting to a more uniform route for complaints, leading possibly to a "college" of ombudsmen working to similar standards. Consumers also need an adequately funded investors' compensation scheme to provide them with a realistic level of compensation.

This will need big changes, rationalisation of SROs, a new more consumer-friendly slimline SIB, more enlightenment in the management of main and minor players in the financial services industry and less glossy, expensive hype.

But the effort will be worth it. After all, the sector cannot do without its customers and, if it is to prosper in the years ahead it should learn to listen more sensitively to the concerns increasingly being expressed.

The customers' voice should be heard. They are the ones footing the bill.

Fewer special deals in generators float

By LIZ DOLAN

STOCKBROKERS are likely to be less willing to come up with special deals for private clients wanting to invest in National Power and PowerGen, the electricity generating companies, than they were after the flotation of the 12 regional electricity companies before Christmas.

"The big problem this time is that all the excitement takes place between the end of February and the middle of March," said Richard Twydell, marketing manager at Henderson Crosthwaite, the stockbroker.

"That's a very busy time for us, whereas things were a lot quieter before Christmas. Privatisations are a nice bonus, but not one to make our living by.

"In any case, I have not detected the enthusiasm for this issue that we saw for the regional boards." Henderson, which has nearly about 50,000 private clients, is not planning to repeat its £15 share dealing offer this time.

However, Capel-Cure Myers, another broker with a large private client base, will continue to offer a special deal via the Skipton and Leeds Permanent building societies.

"We signed up for the whole electricity privatisation programme," said Jeff Plowman, director.

"And, in any case, although a lot of people are saying this is not really one for the general public, I'm ready to bet there'll be another massive take-up."

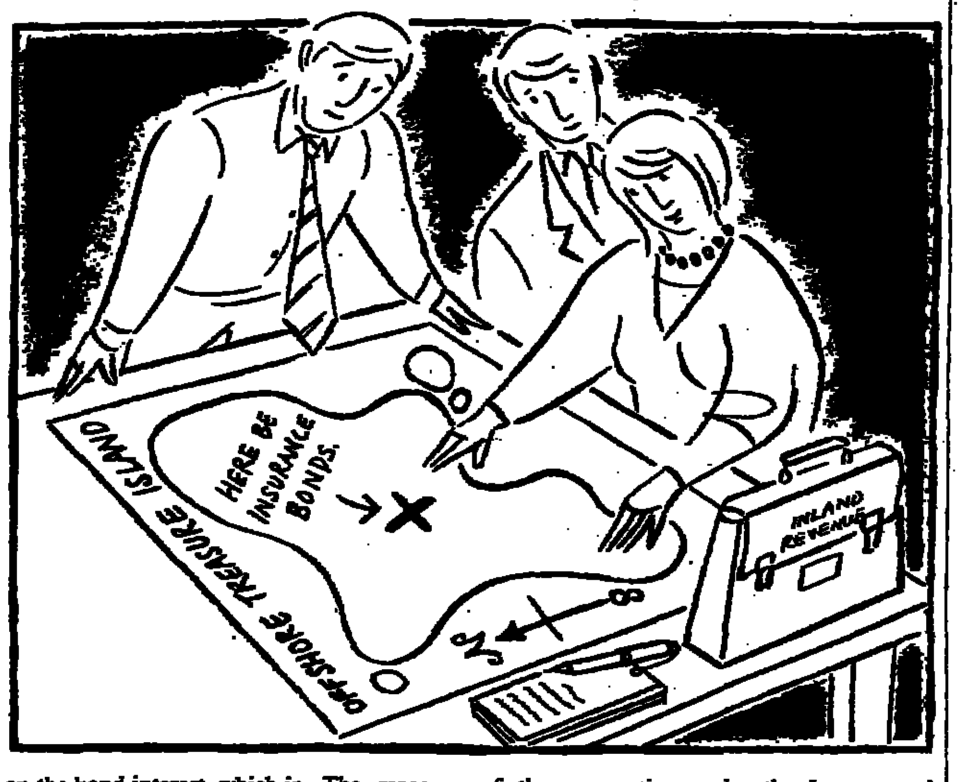
A spokeswoman for the Electricity Share Information Office said it had received 100,000 new applications for registration from people who were not registered for the privatisation of the regional electricity companies. The list of registrations is now closed.

The government has the right to pull the issue at any time before March 12, the first day of dealing, if the war in the Gulf escalates. If this happens, investors will have their money refunded in full.

● We apologise to readers for the absence of the savings rates table. It will be included again next week.

Hunt for offshore bond tax

By LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR



SO FEW holders of personalised offshore insurance bonds have come forward and agreed to pay back-taxes on rolled-up interest that the Inland Revenue is set to trace them by other means.

The Revenue has drawn up a list of the British brokers known to have sold these bonds, and the next move will be to require them to provide information about investors.

In October, Weekend Money revealed that thousands of people had invested in these bonds, provided by the offshore subsidiaries of household name insurance companies. They did so after being told in prospectuses that they could escape tax on the interest earned until the bonds were cashed in.

But the prospectuses were wrong and once the Inland Revenue realised that the insurance companies were selling these bonds to British residents it began trying to trace the investors, who could face tax bills dating back ten years as well as penalties.

Many planned to cash in the bonds after retiring abroad, so avoiding any UK income tax on the bond interest, which is paid gross.

Initially, the Revenue wrote to the offshore companies requesting they provide the addresses of British investors. The response of the companies was to write to the 3,000 to 4,000 investors who have placed about £100 million in these bonds.

The letters warned that tax could be due from the date of investment on interest rolled up in the bonds. It was left to the investors to identify themselves to the tax authorities.

An Inland Revenue spokesman said it had received "a very low response" and that its special investigations section was now considering serving a notice on brokers asking them to provide information about investors. "We know most of the brokers who have sold these bonds and would contact them. The decision will be made in the next couple of weeks."

Brokers who do not want their own tax affairs investigated may feel under greater pressure to help the Revenue than offshore subsidiaries who usually have no direct contact with British tax officials.

Should the brokers refuse, the Revenue has given warning that it can require British parent companies of bond issuers to supply the information under the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988. This year, for the first time, the tax notes accompanying the eight million tax returns issued in April will make it clear that the interest on these bonds is liable to annual tax.

The Association of International Life Offices maintains that these bonds were free of annual income tax so long as the British investors did not withdraw the interest. It says the Inland Revenue has changed its rules.

But the Revenue says that it has always pursued tax on such bonds and that it was the increase in the cases of abuse that had led to an increase in the use of the legislation.

The companies say the bonds are not a tax evasion device. Investors chose to put their money in offshore cash funds because it was a good investment decision at times of high interest rates and depressed stockmarkets.

One investor who put £2 million in the bonds last spring faced a tax bill of about £70,000 when he cashed them after receiving a warning from the Revenue.

Estate agents raise fees despite slump

By MARGARET DIBBEN

ESTATE agents are raising their fees to the levels of two years ago despite the slump in the housing market. The only price cutting is being done by sellers who are still being encouraged to lower their expectations of the value of their homes.

Trevor Kent, immediate past president of the National Association of Estate Agents (NAEA), said: "We are returning to fee sizes that might have appertained two years ago. Fees did come down when houses were easier to sell because we knew we could sell them fast and our overheads for each were less. It was a bargaining point."

Hugh Dunsmore-Hardy, NAEA's present president, agreed: "I don't think it is a feasible proposition in the present climate for estate agents to become more competitive on fees than they currently are."

Fees vary according to local practice and conditions round the country. On average, sellers can expect to pay between 1 and 3 per cent. Some agents will charge 1 per cent but ask for an up-front payment of a couple of hundred pounds for expenses.

These days there are plenty of people wanting to sell houses but too few looking to buy. Estate agents, inundated with unsaleable properties, are often refusing to take houses on to their books if they think the seller's price is too high.

Mr Kent explained: "People have a totally incorrect idea of the value of their own property, expecting us to spend hundreds of pounds of our money to market their house when it is too expensive.

"They are quick enough to walk in and, because the market is bad, make a reduced offer to buy. But, when you put their house on the market, they won't have it for a moment that the market is bad and think their particular property has an aura of protection around it which has totally kept it out of the rest of the market dive."

Agents would like to attract more purchasers but, as buyers do not pay them any more, they see no point in cutting their fees.

"Reducing commission is not something an agent does when business is quiet. It's not the same as having stock on your shelves which you cannot sell, it's rather the opposite. When you do sell one house, it needs to pay for a lot more which you haven't sold," said Mr Kent.

Buyers, on the other hand, will find themselves being wooed. "People are looking after their buyers as best they can. There are more rolls of red carpet outside offices and if you are a cash purchaser with a reasonable mortgage requirement, you will be looked after very well. It is not unusual for the estate agent to pop you in the car and drive you around," he said.

Some agents are trying to bring in more buyers by running open evenings without any obligation to become a customer. Many of them, especially those now owned by financial institutions, such as Black Horse, owned by Lloyds Bank, and Cornerstone, belonging to Abbey National, run these evenings, with free house buying and financial advice.

Most local agents have discretion to introduce special promotions in their area and most of this is targeted at first-time buyers. From time to time estate agents will include free legal advice or offer a complimentary survey.

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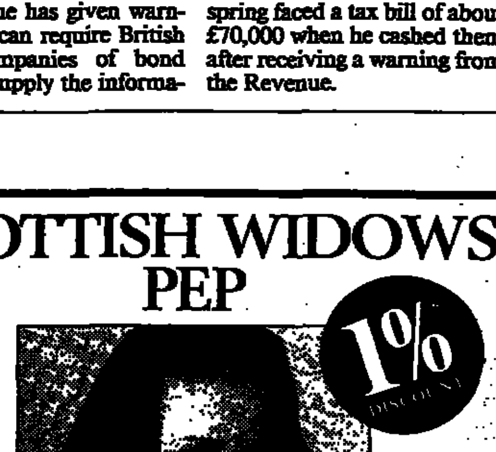

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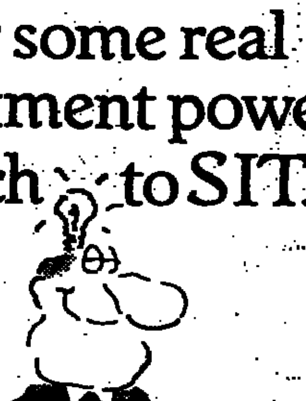

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A 91

Perfectionist still finds hotels his forte at 82

By CAROL LEONARD

BUSINESS PROFILE

Lord Forte

Lord Forte of Ripley, the chairman of Trusthouse Forte, the largest hotel company in Britain, is a little man, in many respects. He stands 5 ft 4¼ins in his bare feet. "And don't forget the quarter," he says.

Like any small creature — "I have never been self-conscious about my height but, if I had had the choice, I would have liked to have been four or five inches taller" — he is relentlessly aggressive. He was once even described as "fastidiously ruthless", but this he rejects.

"I am determined, tenacious, but not ruthless. I would rather not do the most wonderful deal in the world than hurt someone who does not deserve to be hurt."

"To be ruthless is to be without compassion," says Lord King, British Airways' chairman and one of Forte's closest friends. "He is not ruthless. And as for his size he may be diminutive but he is a big man, in his view of industry and in the size and scope of his businesses."

But Forte, now into his 83rd year, is certainly tough. Anyone who had turned a lone sandwich bar in Upper Regent Street, bought with £500 savings and a £2,000 bank loan, into an international hotel and restaurant chain now worth £2 billion, would have to be tough.

Some of his closest friends claim he has mellowed with age, but his employees still handle him with caution, as if he were a time bomb about to explode. Their smiles are nervous at the edges. He is, after all, of Italian origin, and has the temperament to match.

"I have never lost anybody I didn't want to lose, any executive," he counters. "People have left us because I have asked them to leave. But I don't remember shouting at anybody. I am, however, very firm about what I say. I convey the shouting attitude, I suppose, in the way I say something. If I say something, then I like to see it happening."

A perfectionist, he would have no qualms about dismissing someone who was not, in his eyes, doing their job, or who did not respond to his commands. "If a manager goes wrong we put them in a smaller hotel and give them more training. We have no hesitation in doing that."

If he walks through a restaurant or hotel he can, he says, tell instantly if it is being run properly. "You look to see if the receptionist is smiling and welcoming. It's body language. If she isn't you think: 'What the heck is this?'. My wife will say: 'But you've only been here five minutes, you haven't seen the place yet.' Then a little while later she will say: 'You were right.' You can tell just by looking."

In kitchens, he always inspects the fridge. Word of this habit has clearly spread. "All our fridges now seem to be spotless." He is obsessed with cleanliness. "My father always used to say: 'You may not be able to give them the best cup of coffee, but the cup must be clean, you must be clean, the floor must be clean.' I suppose that has had an effect on me."

In appearance and personality Forte is exactly like his father. A photograph of his father taken at a similar age is often mistaken for him. He died when he was 87.

But Forte looks far younger than his years. He walks like a man of 40, with no hint of stiffness, and he readily springs to his feet to illustrate a point with Latin animation, rather than sinking into an armchair like many men half his age. "The stairs are now deeper than they once were, print is much smaller and people keep whispering at me," is all he will concede. "But apart from that I feel the same as I always did."

Jean Chalmers, his secretary, or rather "Miss Chalmers" — "After 16 years I have never called her by her Christian name: the relationship between a man and his secretary is a very close one and I think a certain amount of dignity is important" — is stoically protective and insists that he must be interviewed and photographed only in the morning. He is not, she says diplomatically, at his best in the afternoon. He gets tired.

But he still works at maintaining his physique and adheres to an exercise regime that would shame most other men, of any age. He flexes the bicep muscle in his right arm. "Feel that," he says proudly. It pops up and down to order. "I do 20 or 30 press-ups, four or five times a week, and on the days in between I do something else, sit-ups perhaps." He has been known to walk up all 13 flights of stairs to his High Holborn office, and regularly stops the lift at the seventh or eighth floor, to walk the rest.

Chapman Pincher, the journalist-turned-author and a friend for 30 years, often goes shooting with Forte. "Between drives he will run rather than walk. Everyone else just accepts it. It's just Charlie. He has boundless energy and he believes in being active. He takes great care of himself physically, and says that you should never let the body go. He believes that it has a positive spin-off for the mind."

But Forte admits that he has few really close friends. "It's because I come from such a close family." Every Sunday he gathers two or three of his six children together for a family lunch at either his Belgravia home or, in the summer, at his country estate near Guildford, Surrey. It is an invitation they would be unlikely to refuse.

"He can be very tough on his family," says Pincher. "He is very much an Italian father figure and if he is having a family lunch, he expects them to be there. If they are not, he can get a bit crusty."

And he is just as much of a perfectionist in his own home as at work. "If he hosts a lunch, whether at home or in a restaurant, everything must be perfect," Pincher adds. "If anything is not done properly there will be *hell* to pay. But that is *his* job."

The eldest of three children, Forte was equally close to his own parents, living with them before he married and next door to them after his marriage, 47 years ago, to Irene. Even when he first moved to London, at the age of 25, to develop his father's chain of ice cream parlours-cum-sandwich bars in the capital — his father's first, in Scotland, was called the Savoy Cafe, "a forebear of things to come" — he returned to the then parental home in Brighton every weekend. "If I didn't they would get very annoyed."

He describes his relationship with his wife as "the main thing in my life", and he is one of the few top businessmen about whom there has not been even the faintest whiff of extra-marital affairs, but it was his father who shaped his business philosophy. "He was a rather complete individual and if he hadn't spent his early years in a small village in Italy he would probably have been more successful, even though he did quite well as it was. He had all those principles that now seem old fashioned. Basic things that are so essential. About hygiene, about always being honest to customers and staff, about working hard and *not being extravagant. I don't* drink because he said you mustn't drink. Well, I do have a glass of wine or champagne with a meal, or even a whisky and water if I go home at night, late and tired, but that's occasionally. What he meant is that you shouldn't take too much to whisky. It's bad for your health and it affects your judgment. I don't think I've ever been drunk in my life. I've never been intoxicated."

Although Forte is understandably proud of his business achievements, and the fact that he employs 70,000 people in the United Kingdom alone, when he looks back on his life he mostly thinks "of all the things I could *have done better, of why I didn't* do this instead of that". He might now be 82 and acknowledged as one of Britain's most successful businessmen, but he is, it seems, still driven.

He is philosophical, however, about what he feels, in hindsight, were his mistakes. "It is better not to have done a bad deal than to have done a good deal. If you miss a good deal you might regret it, but you still have the company. One bad deal can ruin a company."

But, although THF is publicly quoted, and Rocco, his only son, is chief executive, he refuses to disclose his family's shareholding. "I never reveal that. All I will say is that we are by far the largest shareholders in the company. From time to time we get tentative approaches, even recently, from people who want to do this, that or the other, and it is something I prefer to keep to myself."

He admits that the hotel industry has been badly hit by the recession and the Gulf war. "We've had lots of cancellations. This industry is always the first to suffer and the first to get back on its feet." He predicts that the Gulf war will last three or four months and that it will then be a further 18 months before the British economy begins to recover. "I do not look upon the future with great optimism. We are facing 18 months to two years of hardship."

But it is on the subject of the Savoy Group and, in particular, Sir Hugh Wontner, its former chairman, that he becomes most animated. He almost loses control. THF launched its bid for the Savoy in 1981. It now owns 69.4 per cent of the equity but only 45 per cent of the votes.

"I have always had a feeling about the Savoy, a feeling that it is a great company," says Forte. "It has been there for 120 years and it is part of this city. Although it was well run from the point of view of its staff, it was not making profits and gradually they were selling the properties. I saw it shrinking."

As for Wontner, almost exactly one month older than Forte, a lot of his remarks are unpublishable. "I say exactly the same things in front of a roomful of 30 people," Forte says defiantly. "I wish he would sue me. I do not like him. I would not expect him to say that he liked me. I do not wish him any harm, I hope he keeps healthy and strong, but I wish he would get the hell out of there. He still has an apartment, an office and two secretaries. What for?" He claims that Wontner's penthouse apartment at Claridges could be let for £3,000 to £4,000 a week.

But with a five-year truce now agreed between the two companies, even though Rocco and Donald Main, THF's finance director, have been given seats on the Savoy board, does he still think that he will see a THF victory in his lifetime? "I will not live much more than 20 years from now," he replies. "And yes, I do think we will own the Savoy in that time." But apart from installing a new management system, *there would not, he insists,* "be any great upheavals".

Forte's fascination with the Savoy is in keeping with his passion for the traditional pursuits of an English country gentleman. Although he still retains his father's house in Italy, and returns there every June to a hero's welcome, for a Catholic feast day, he acknowledges that Britain is now his home. "I am Italian by origin and I like Italians, but I have more of a sense of going home when I go back to Scotland than when I return to Italy. This is the finest country in the world."

But although he is a Conservative peer, and turned down an offer of a peerage from Hugh Gaitskell — 38 years before he finally accepted one from Margaret Thatcher — since it would have restricted him to either the Labour or cross benches and would, he argues, have been dishonest, he is not as right wing as many people assume.

"At heart I'm a bit of a socialist. Call me a humanist if you like. I agree with the sentiment but not the way of doing it. I believe in free enterprise and that the better man does better, but I am proud to belong to a country that has a health service. People do not starve here. I could not live in a country that did not do these things. This is a caring country and it has the nicest population in the world. If you get into a railway carriage people don't talk to you, but that is wonderful. It means that you are not disturbed."

Forte then is a warm man, a proud man and a perfectionist. The latter trait can make him cantankerous. And just as he is tough with his own family, so he is tough with his staff, since deep down he regards them as his family too, in a benevolent, proprietorial sense. He has now been around for so long that he has become a legend in his own lifetime. And, as with all legends, myths abound.

Some of them have been fuelled by his droll, at times sarcastic, sense of humour, which is often woefully misunderstood. He will complain about the food he is served when it is faultless. That his wife is ugly when she is blatantly not. Just as he manages to convey displeasure without raising his voice, so he can crack such jokes without revealing a smile.

"I love pulling people's legs, I exaggerate and tease, but only if I am fond of them. It is a silly sense of humour. People sometimes don't know whether I'm serious or not. And that is a fault I have."

Forte's friends will not hear a bad word said about him, but even they admit that they would not like to work for him. Forte is aware that he has made enemies, whether through misunderstanding or not. But he is adamant that he has remained true to his father's principles. "It is because I have been successful. But no one can point a finger at me and say that I have done something that was not right. That is what I always tell Rocco, that he must be able to go into a room, anywhere in the world, without anyone pointing a finger at him and accusing him of doing something that was wrong."

MARC ASPLAND

Small in stature but big in business: Lord Forte with Irene, his wife of 47 years, at home in London

Rouble deals under the counter

CAPITAL CITY

From MARY DEJEVSKY AND BROOK HOROWITZ IN MOSCOW

THE reform of money in the Soviet Union was typical of much egislation passed in the past two years. Superficially, the withdrawal of 50 and 100 rouble notes from circulation and the restriction of bank withdrawals to 500 roubles a month looked like the first step in the radical economic reform that everyone has been waiting for. In practice, the decree has been something of a fiasco.

The main stated aims were to *curtail the black* market and reduce the amount of cash hoarded, while cutting the surplus money in circulation. The results appear to be almost the opposite.

Within hours of the "reform", the black market was flourishing as never before. This time it was in high denomination notes, which were bought up on street corners by people confident of finding a means of redeeming them. Last week, the trade at Moscow's collective farm markets was only partly in carrots, eggs and oranges. The main dealing was under the counter, in banknotes.

A black-marketeer told a Moscow paper that he and his friends had profited hugely from the change. Not only had they heard about it in advance and palmed off all their large-denomination notes onto the state bank in good time, they had also made excellent use of their contacts in joint venture firms and co-operatives.

These companies, the closest the Soviet Union comes to small businesses, were legally entitled to change large quantities of the now invalid notes as long as they were able to prove they were legitimately earned before the new ruling came into effect. Hundreds of thousands of otherwise worthless notes thus found their way back to the Soviet state bank without difficulty, allowing the supposed targets of the reform to make a small killing on the way.

Kremlin: decree a fiasco

With the reform mainly complete, the Soviet government suddenly announced that a sum of 8 billion roubles had not been returned to the banks for changing. This was less than 15 per cent of all the high-denomination notes in circulation and far less than the authorities had hoped. They had expected that at least 16 billion roubles would not be handed in, which would have reduced the total cash in circulation by a tenth.

Most of the Soviet population have suffered three days of personal anguish, constant queueing and much form-filling for the sake of reducing what is picturesquely described as the "rouble overhang", the estimated amount of roubles for which there are no goods available, by barely 5 per cent. At least three days' work has been lost at many factories leading one wag to quip that the new Soviet prime minister had achieved what none of the new democratic or trade union movements had done: a nationwide strike.

The limited success of the elaborate money-changing operation will have two unwelcome consequences. It will have undone all recent attempts to strengthen confidence in the rouble and encourage savings. From now on people are expected to withdraw their maximum 500 roubles a month from the bank and spend it on anything, and that means the black market, just to keep it out of the hands of the authorities.

It also means that some other measure will have to be taken, urgently, to bring supply and demand into better balance. To most people that implies one thing: price rises. And in the Soviet Union, price rises are the doubling and trebling of fixed state prices.

Before the now inevitable price rises are announced, Muscovites can do little more than reminisce about how they and their neighbours fooled the authorities the first time round. How they rushed to buy air tickets to Vladivostok in the three hours before their banknotes turned into wastepaper, and traded the tickets in next day for real money, or how they spent hundreds of roubles on a bottle of imported whisky, not so much to drown their sorrows, but to have something to show, and trade, for their savings.

Brook Horowitz is a representative of a multinational company and is resident in Moscow.

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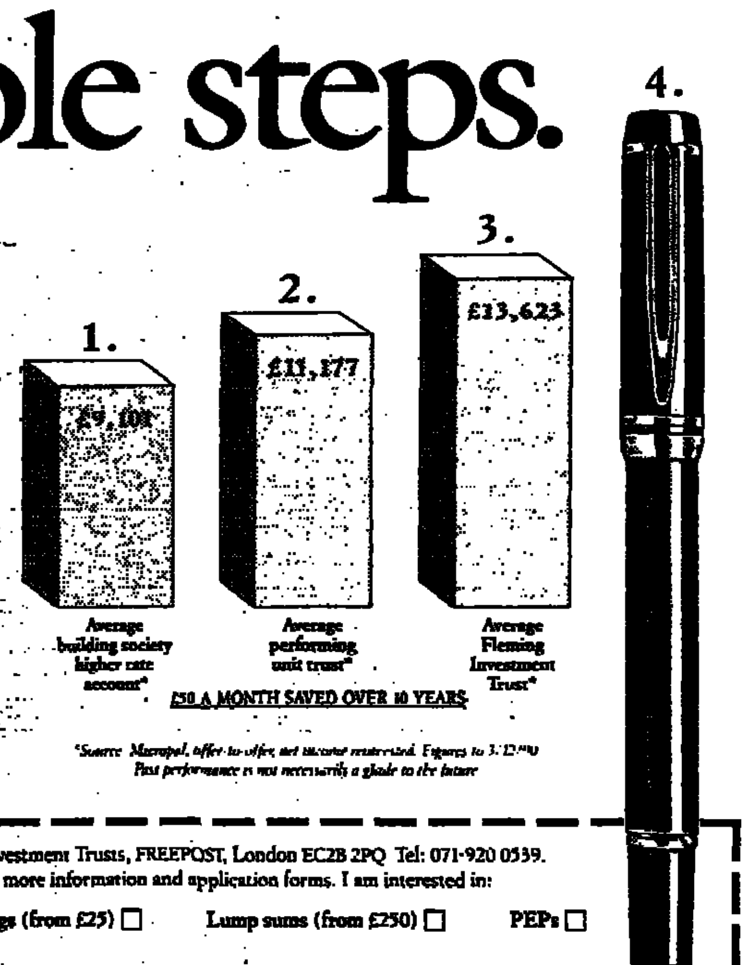

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WEEKEND
MONEY

SUMMARY

Fed cuts discount rate to 6%

THE Federal Reserve Board, the American central bank, cut the discount rate by half a percentage point to 6 per cent after unemployment rose in January.

It is the second time in six weeks that the Fed has cut the discount rate, the interest rate it charges to other banks, in an effort to control recession. Leading banks promptly lowered their prime rates from 9.5 to 9 per cent.

Unemployment rose from 6.1 to 6.2 per cent, the highest since June 1987. In Europe, the dollar reacted by falling to near its lowest level against the mark....................Page 30

Forte something

All the fridges in the Trusthouse Forte chain of hotels are spotless because of Lord Forte's obsession with cleanliness. He tells Carol Leonard that he is a perfectionist. He also has the energy of a man half his age. Page 37

Lewis's debts

Lewis's, the department store that went into receivership on Thursday, is likely to have liabilities of more than £50 million, of which National Westminster Bank is owed in excess of £13.5 million Page 30

Brent payment

Brent Walker has been ordered by the High Court to pay Grand Metropolitan £50 million it is alleged to owe for the purchase of William Hill, the bookmaker, in 1989 .. Page 30

Merger option

Merger with another British airline is one of three options open to Dan Air to secure its future, the new management says..............................Page 31

Your views

Encl: postage for correspondence on our future mistakes
GED.

The Halifax Building Society thought that it would compensate one reader for charging too much mortgage interest by sending him five prepaid envelopes. Another reader tells how building societies and post offices insist that child savers pay high deposits to open accounts, while refusing to let them make small withdrawals................ Page 35

Tax chase

The Inland Revenue is chasing up British residents who bought offshore insurance bonds to make them pay tax, even though thousands of people bought these bonds thinking they would be exempt. They now face tax bills dating back up to ten years.............................. Page 38

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Murphy's law

"Murphy's Second Law of Share Picking states that the company with the most improbable name is the most probable winner. I am amazed to unearth evidence for this ridiculous law . . ."

Prufrock – The Sunday Times tomorrow.

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'Health warning' for investors in power generators

By Martin Waller

SMALLER investors are being asked to put their money into an industry whose profitability and very structure are almost impossible to predict in two years' time, the pathfinder prospectus for the two electricity generators makes clear.

The document is one of the most cautious to be issued in the government's privatisation programme. In what must be another first in public asset sales, it also contains a warning from each of the two companies, National Power and the smaller PowerGen, that it is in a less advantageous position than the other.

The pathfinder is the first real chance the City and the smaller investor have to weigh up the merits of an investment in the generators. All that is missing is the price the shares will be sold at and the exact number on offer. The government has said that all investors will have to take a bundle of shares in both companies, which will then trade separately once dealings start on March 12.

There is a range of incentives on offer to investors who register with the Electricity Share Information Office by February 15. All those who registered for the sale of the 12 electricity distributors last year are automatically included.

The minimum investment is about £525 and the minimum first instalment £300. The balance is payable in February 1992.

The companies are promising a "progressive dividend policy", with the notional dividend for the year to end-March covered 2.9 times in the case of PowerGen and 2.8 times for National Power. But the promise effectively only runs for the next two years, the document makes clear. This is only one of many mentions of what happens to the generating industry after March 1993, something of a crunch date for the generators.

It is then that contracts to take coal at fixed prices from British Coal and various deals to supply power to their main customers, the 12 distributors, come to an end. The cost of coal accounts for about 70 per cent of the generators' costs.

March 1993 is also the date when the government is free to sell its remaining 40 per cent holding in the companies and is when the so-called "special share" held by the government can at the latter's choice cease to exist. The special share makes them bid-proof.

The combined effect is that the situation post-March 1993 is extremely uncertain, both as regards the companies' operations and their ownership. That warning is conspicuous in the prospectus.

National Power itself points to the possible sale of the goverment holding as one of the uncertainties it faces, although PowerGen is silent on the matter. It adds: "National Power will be operating in a more competitive market, and revenues will be sensitive to the balance between demand and available capacity."

In the equivalent paragraph in its own section of the prospectus, PowerGen points out that surplus generating capacity round the country and the coming on stream of cheaper and more efficient power stations "would have an adverse impact on the company's profitability and cash flows from electricity sales from existing plant at least for a period after 31st March 1993."

National Power points out that it has a higher interest charge than PowerGen "and a higher initial cost base reflecting inherited manpower levels". It also claims that its rival could have a "competitive advantage" in respect to the fitting of certain anti-pollution equipment at two of its plants.

For its part, PowerGen says National Power's larger size "may give it a potential competitive advantage in the new market place". It claims that the fact that its own anti-pollution programme is less advanced than National Power's "is likely to give National Power greater commercial and operational flexibility".

The prospectus mentions other uncertainties that both parties are apparently agreed on. One is the Gulf, another is the Labour Party's for the industry.

Special deals, page 36
Timetable, page 30

Lloyds leads way to higher rates on credit cards

By Sara McConnell

MORE than one-and-a-half million Lloyds Bank customers will pay extra interest on outstanding Access bills from this week. The bank is raising the monthly rate on outstanding balances from 1.9 per cent a month to 2 per cent. The APR has gone up from 26.8 per cent to 28.3 per cent.

Lloyds announced the rise exactly a year after it became the first bank to impose an annual £12 fee. At that time, it cut its monthly rate from 2.2 per cent to 1.9 per cent a month, an APR of 26.8 per cent.

The bank said it had kept its rate steady for 14 months but had had to raise it when there was no sign of a further fall in interest rates.

A Lloyds spokeswoman said: "People will be paying more but they have had the benefit of a low rate for 14 months."

Other banks have as yet made no move but admit they are reviewing their card-charging structures. This could mean more banks following Lloyds' example and raising charges on credit cards or imposing annual charges.

Ron Whatford, TSB's operations director, card services, said: "The current economic climate means banks have got problems and consumers will maybe have to pay more. Costs are growing and income is diminishing and charges may be one way of solving the problem. Some banks may lose money on their card operations."

Barclays followed Lloyds and imposed an £8 fee in June, cutting rates to 1.85 per cent from 2.2 per cent a month. It also introduced a free Mastercard and two other services, Purchase Cover and International Rescue.

A Barclaycard spokeswoman said: "We went out of our way to minimise the loss of customers. People are very sophisticated and appreciate the added value of the benefits we are offering."

She added that there were no plans to charge for the Mastercard.

The other two major card issuers, NatWest and Midland, are widely predicted to impose charges shortly. If they do so, an extra 8.2 million customers would face an annual charge. Both banks say they are reviewing their card ranges.

A Midland spokesman said: "We are continuing to review the market and have no announcement to make at the moment. But everyone is suggesting that NatWest and Midland will start charging a fee and no one would be surprised if they did."

A NatWest spokesman said: "We have no immediate plans to charge a fee but we are reviewing the cards that we have because they are long-standing banking products. There may be major changes, there may be minor changes or there may be no change at all. It is too early to say."

Banks say they are squeezed because they pay high rates on the money they borrow to lend to customers, which is not covered by the rate they charge customers. They also report increased losses through fraud and bad debts.

Figures from the British Bankers Association show that fraud on Mastercard and Visa totalled £30.5 million in December 1989, the latest figures available.

More people have also started paying off their credit card balances in full every month, taking advantage of 56 days' free credit.

Barclays estimates that about 50 per cent of people pay off their cards completely every month, while NatWest has about 40 to 45 per cent and Midland 46 per cent. Lloyds said that 60 per cent of its customers did before it started charging.

Mr Whatford, of the TSB, said: "This is a big dilemma for banks. The existing system is iniquitous for interest payers because they are subsidising the free credit period for those who pay in full. The APR on cards is high because it has to pay for the losses of full balance payers."

Ian Lindsey, banking director of Save & Prosper, said: "With interest rates as they are at the moment we cannot make a profit. Our bad debt is low compared with the industry average.

"We haven't got any firm plans to charge but if the major banks like Midland, TSB and NatWest start to charge and we get thousands of applications, we will be forced to charge new cardholders."

Save & Prosper gives cardholders the option of paying an £8 annual fee, which reduces the monthly rate to 1.775 per cent, an APR of 24.9 per cent. Those who pay no fee have to find the higher monthly rate of 2 per cent, 26.8 per cent APR.

Town & Country Building Society, which has one of the lowest rates of interest of any Visa or Access card, said it had no intention of charging at the moment.

Stephen Dilworth, assistant general manager, marketing, said: "If every other person does we will have to reconsider. We have to watch the competition. Fraud and other losses are a problem and charges would help."

Banks not charging a fee, and building societies that entered the market with a low interest rate hoping to attract customers quickly, have picked up a lot of business from Barclays and Lloyds cardholders closing their accounts in protest at the annual fee.

Barclays has lost 485,000 out of nine million customers, 80 per cent of whom repaid their accounts in full every month.

Lloyds declined to say how many cardholders had gone to other banks after it started to charge, although it says it retained all its active customers who did pay interest.

MICHAEL CHARITY

No charge: Barclaycard's Mastercard being processed

Home dear home this year

By Sara McConnell

HUNDREDS of thousands of mortgage borrowers will face higher payments over the next two months as lenders set rates for customers whose rates are reviewed annually.

The Halifax Building Society, Britain's biggest, yesterday set an unchanged rate for the year at 14.5 per cent, but other societies will have to approve a rise, since base rates are likely to remain high at least until the March 19 Budget.

Building societies say they would have needed another rate cut of one percentage point to avoid raising rates on these mortgages or asking borrowers to make up shortfalls from when interest rates went up last March. Customers on annual review were not affected by the 0.9 percentage point rise in the mortgage rate last year, as their rates had in most cases already been fixed.

This week's announcement of a half-point increase in German interest rates put paid to hopes of an early cut in the mortgage rate.

The Halifax set a rate of 14.5 per cent for its 1.3 million customers on its Budgetplan annual review scheme. This rate is the same as last year's but borrowers will have to pay back the money they did not have to find last year when rates went up to 15.4 per cent between March and November. The extra money will be spread over the term of the mortgage.

There will be an average increase of £5 a month for 53 per cent of customers, about 680,000 people. A further 600,000 people, or 47 per cent, will have increases of less than £2.

Leeds Permanent says 200,000 borrowers who opted to continue paying at 13.45 per cent last October are likely to find themselves paying up to £30 a month more on a typical £40,000 endowment mortgage if the society decides to raise its rate by one point to 14.5 per cent next week. The Leeds was carrying out its annual review in October when the base rate was cut and it gave customers the option to pay 14.5 per cent from November 1 or continue to pay their existing rate of 13.45 per cent with a review in February.

National & Provincial says almost all its 320,000 borrowers have rates reviewed annually. The society set a rate of 14.5 per cent on January 1, the same as last year. However about 40 per cent of borrowers who have variable rate mortgages reviewed annually will face an increase in payments to make up a shortfall while rates were at 15.4 per cent last year.

Other societies such as the Nationwide and the Cheltenham & Gloucester have kept their rate the same for customers on annual review this year. The Nationwide set a rate of 14.5 per cent for its 400,000 customers from February 1, the same as last year.

When rates rose to 15.4 per cent last year, the shortfall on a typical £30,000 mortgage was £115. Nationwide will not ask its customers to pay this back this year, but if rates do not go down it will have to be paid back from next year, spread over the whole term of the mortgage.

Cheltenham and Gloucester has taken a similar approach. The 85 per cent of its 240,000 borrowers on annual review will continue to pay 14.25 per cent although the society raised its rate for the other 15 per cent of borrowers not on annual review to 14.5 per cent from January 31.

☐ The Cheltenham & Gloucester building society said it would not accept new applications for its Maxi Tessa after this Monday. Savers who have already committed the maximum £3,000 will have the 15.33 per cent gross rate guaranteed only until July 1 when it will be reviewed.

The 15.33 per cent rate would bring investors a higher lump sum after five years than almost any other Tessa if the rate is maintained. On 15.33 per cent variable, the lump sum after five years is £15,155. On 14.7 per cent the sum is £14,843. These both assume interest rates do not change.

The society this week cut the rates on the Maxi Tessa, and the postal London Share account to which it is linked, to 14.7 per cent before saying it would hold the 15.33 per cent rate on the Maxi Tessa until July. Rates have been cut because the change from composite rate tax of 22 per cent to basic rate tax of 25 per cent means societies will have to pay the Inland Revenue an extra 3 per cent. Societies cut their rates to recoup this from savers.

Customers face squeeze by banks

By Margaret Dibben

BANK customers could face lower interest rates on savings accounts and higher charges as banks try to recoup lost profits and restore shareholder confidence.

Two weeks ago, Midland Bank cut the rate of interest on two current and savings accounts, Orchard and Meridian, except for its wealthiest customers who now receive a higher rate. A spokesman said: "We are trying to encourage higher balances to be held on savings accounts."

Save & Prosper has just shortened the interest-free period on debit cards, although not on credit cards.

Ian Lindsey, its banking director, said: "There is a fair chance that companies will seek to increase the margins they earn from their customers through charging more or paying lower interest rates.

"Looking ahead, I think we will see rates being trimmed on interest bearing accounts, assuming the general level of interest rates remain unchanged."

Richard Coleman, banking analyst at James Capel, the stockbroker, said: "Banks are certainly doing all they can to enhance their flagging profitability and I have no doubt this will entail pushing up fees and commission charges more than they otherwise might."

All companies are currently under pressure to maintain their dividends after a difficult year. Mr Coleman believes this is reasonable.

"It is not just a question of preferring shareholders to customers, because shareholders are taking a big risk by investing in banks these days and they deserve compensation for it."

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